Historic, Archive Document

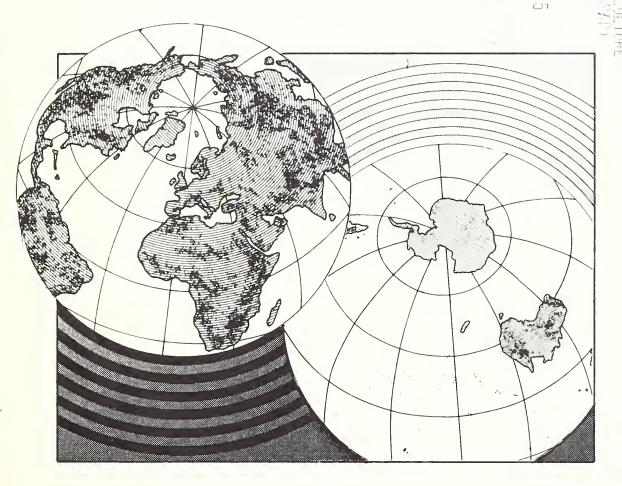
Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



W5 uppl.5

Western Hemisphere Agricultural Situation

Review of 1977 and Outlook for 1978



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

ECONOMICS, STATISTICS, AND COOPERATIVES SERVICE

APPROVED BY THE WORLD FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK AND SITUATION BOARD

WESTERN HEMISPHERE AGRICULTURAL SITUATION, REVIEW OF 1977 AND OUT-LOOK FOR 1978. Developing Countries Program Area, Foreign Demand and Competition Division, Economics, Statistics, and Cooperative Service, Supplement to WAS-15, approved by the World Food and Agricultural Outlook and Situation Board.

ABSTRACT: In 1977, record exports of grains, oilseeds, sugar, and related commodities, and unusualy high coffee prices increased Western Hemisphere agricultural exports to record values. Agricultural imports also rose sharply to fill larger food production deficits in the important importing countries. However, the 1978 export outlook is less favorable because of lower world prices for coffee and adverse weather which has reduced export supplies of grains and oilseeds. Latin American wheat imports are expected to reach record volumes because of larger 1977 production shortfalls with an increased share supplied by the United States.

KEYWORDS: Western Hemisphere, agricultural production, exports, imports, Canada, Latin America.

FOREWORD

This annual review of the Agricultural Situation in the Western Hemisphere supplements the 1977 World Agricultural Situation, WAS-13 to WAS-15. It is one of a series of reports being published including Western Europe, the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe, Communist Asia, Africa and West Asia, and the Far East and Oceania. Western Hemisphere, as used in the report, includes Canada; Mexico; the five larger Caribbean Island countries; Central America; and South America; but it excludes the United States.

Unless otherwise specified, the metric system of weights and measures is used: 1 hectare equals 2.471 acres and 1 metric ton equals 2,204.6 pounds. Similarly, all years are calendar years and values are denominated in U.S. dollars. Gross domestic product is abbreviated to GDP and gross national product to GNP. Because of recent revisions, data in this report may sometimes differ from data used in the World Agricultural Situation and occasionally from the Indices of Agricultural Production in the Western Hemisphere.

Country statements were prepared by Frank D. Barlow, Carol E. Bray, John E. Link, Myles Mielke, and Samuel O. Ruff. U.S. agricultural attaches in the Western Hemisphere countries provided commodity estimates and much of the background information through their annual situation and commodity reports.

Howard L. Hall, Project Leader,

Developing Countries Program Area

Foreign Demand and Competition Division

Howard L. Hall

CONTENTS

	Page
Summary	. 1
Canada	. 2
Mexico	. 5
Caribbean	
Cuba Dominican Republic Haiti Jamaica	. 7 . 8
Trinidad and Tobago	
Central America Costa Rica El Salvador Guatemala Honduras Nicaragua Panama	10 10 11 11
South America	
Argentina Bolivia Brazil Chile	14 14 16
Colombia Ecuador Guyana	18 18
Paraguay Peru Uruguay	19
Venezuela	21
TABLES	
General economic data Indices of agricultural and food production Fertilizer use Area and production of selected crops Production of other agricultural commodities Foreign agricultural trade, total values Foreign trade of selected agricultural commodities U.S. agricultural exports to Western Hemisphere, total values U.S. agricultural imports from Western Hemisphere, total values U.S. agricultural exports to Western Hemisphere, values by commodity	24 25 26-27 28 29 30-31 32 33
groups U.S. agricultural imports from Western Hemisphere values by commodity	
groups	36-37

Western Hemisphere Agricultural Situation Review of 1977 and Outlook for 1978

SUMMARY

In 1977, Western Hemisphere wheat production fell sharply but most other major crops made strong gains. The aggregate value of total agricultural output, excluding the United States and Cuba, was estimated up at about the 1976 rate of 3.7 percent. Exports of grains, oilseeds, sugar, and meat were expanded and higher coffee prices contributed to record agricultural trade earnings. Although record 1976 harvests limited wheat purchases, total agricultural imports were increased to fill larger food deficits in Mexico, Central America, the Caribbean, and the North Andean region of South America.

However, the 1978 outlook for Western Hemisphere agricultural trade appears less favorable. Supplies of wheat, feed grains, and oilseeds have been reduced by adverse weather in the main exporting countries; and increases in coffee, sugar, and cotton may be largely offset by lower prices. Because of large 1977 production shortfalls, Latin American wheat imports are expected to reach a new high, up from 8.5 million tons in 1977 to around 10 million tons in 1978, with an increased share of the total from the United States.

Because of smaller plantings and bad weather, the late 1977 wheat harvests were reduced sharply in Canada, Mexico, Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay; Western Hemisphere production fell from the record 1976 total of 43 million tons to 31 million tons in 1977. Further gains in oilseeds, cotton, sugar, and meat added to strong recoveries for coffee, feed grains, and fruits and vegetables in the principal exporting countries. Those gains were partly offset by the effects of weather and other adverse conditions which damaged early food crops in areas of the Caribbean, Central America, and the Andean region of South America.

Wheat sales from the large 1976 crops in Canada and Argentina were near-record volumes in 1977; Argentine and Brazilian exports of 1977 feed grains, rice, oilseeds, and oilseed products were greatly increased. Latin American coffee sales continued at about the 1976 rate as world prices rose

to new highs through April 1977; however, they were cut back sharply as world prices fell later in the year. After an early year rise, cotton exports also slowed and producers held larger than usual stocks because of falling prices. Sugar sales recovered to a new record and the trade in cattle, beef, and fruits and vegetables expanded further in response to favorable export prices.

Canada's agricultural export earnings were estimated up 7 percent in 1977. Argentine agricultural exports reached a new record in spite of lower grain prices. Unusually high prices, particularly for coffee, boosted earnings and foreign payments situations were greatly improved in Brazil and other Latin American countries including Mexico, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, and Central America. Trade and payments situations were less favorable in the Caribbean countries because of large world supplies and depressed prices for sugar. Serious financial crises deepened in Jamaica, Peru, and Guyana. By yearend 1977, foreign exchange reserves had fallen off rather sharply in Canada. continued a moderate decline in Venezuela, but recovered in Mexico and continued up strongly in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Central America.

Canadian agricultural imports were up 14 percent in 1977, and imports into Latin America reflected stronger demand and larger than usual shortfalls in 1976 food production in many importing countries. Brazil and Chile imported less wheat because of large supplies from 1976/77 harvests. Rising demand resulted in serious shortages and emergency imports of food commodities by Venezuela. It also increased prices of domestic goods relative to foreign goods, contributed to rising imports of feed grains, oilseeds and oilseed products, animal fats, meat, and dairy products, particularly in Mexico, Central America, and the Andean countries.

The two-way U.S. agricultural trade with Canada reached new highs in 1977; U.S. imports increased by 12 percent to \$672 million, and

exports rose 4.4 percent to \$1.55 billion. U.S. agricultural imports from Latin America rose to \$5.7 billion, 31 percent above the 1976 record. The import rise was boosted by larger sugar purchases and higher average prices for coffee, cocoa, fruits and vegetables and meat. The U.S. share of a smaller wheat market fell sharply because of increased competition, pushing 1977 sales down to about 4 million tons—the smallest since 1972. However, unusually large exports of feed grains, oil-seeds and oilmeals, vegetable oils, and animal fats helped increase U.S. sales to Latin America by 14 percent to a near-record 1977 value of \$2.2 billion.

Canadian wheat exports for the August-July marketing year are estimated up from 14.5 million in 1976/77 to 16 million tons or more in 1977/78, but 1978 exports from Argentina will probably not exceed one-third of the 6 million tons for 1977. Adverse weather has reportedly limited prospects for 1978 expansion of Argentine feed grains and has reduced Brazil's corn and soybean crop sharply below year earlier records. Larger supplies of coffee and cotton are available from Latin America's 1977 crops, but trade earnings are expected to fall if producer efforts fail to stabilize world coffee prices. Prospects for a near record Cuban sugar output in 1978 have been reduced by continued heavy rains during the current harvest. However, Latin American production is expected to continue

at high levels with some likelihood of higher prices through operation of the new International Sugar Agreement (ISA).

Canada has large supplies of feed grains and feed wheat which may tend to increase the output of livestock and poultry products and reduce corn imports in 1978. Because of the smaller harvest, Brazil may have to import corn in 1978 to supply growing needs for feeding. Chile may also import more feed grains and fats and oils. Strong recovery in production from late 1977 harvests will likely limit expansion in imports of feed grains, oilseeds, and related products into Mexico, Colombia, and Venezuela—the important U.S. markets.

In contrast, Latin American wheat imports will reflect the sharp reductions of late 1977 and early 1978 harvests and may rise from the reduced 1977 volume of about 8.5 million to 10 million tons or more in 1978. Canada is expected to continue large exports to Brazil and the Caribbean but Argentine supplies will be very limited. A strong rising trend in U.S. wheat exports to Latin America, beginning in late 1977, has accelerated early this year, and January-February 1978 sales of 1.4 million tons compare with about 400,000 tons for the same year-earlier period. The U.S. share of the expanded market is expected to reach 6.5 million tons or more in 1978, compared with the 1973 record of 5.4 million. (Howard L. Hall)

CANADA

Canadian Real Gross National product (GNP) increased only about 2.4 percent in 1977—considerably less than the 4.8 percent recorded in 1976. The sluggish economic performance is attributed to slow growth and low prices in world markets for Canadian products, weak domestic demand, and little or no investment growth in plant and equipment. Consumer expenditure accounts for 60 percent of Gross National Expenditure and a 1977 acceleration in inflation, at a time when income expansion was restrained under the wage and price control program, slowed growth in real personal disposable income and consumer spending. Excess production capacity and slow growth in business profits have also been factors restraining investment.

Monetary and fiscal policies have been aimed at slowing inflation and, since October 1975, the economy has been operating under a wage and price control program. Inflation, at a rate of 8 percent in 1977, was considerably better than the 11 percent in the year before the control program, but higher than the 7.5 percent in 1976. The 1977 rise was attributed to increases in food prices which offset declines in nonfood prices. Because Canada

imports large quantities of fruits and vegetables from the United States, increases in the prices of these commodities contributed to the rise in Canadian food prices.

There has been a noticeable deceleration in increases in base wage rates under the wage and price control program. First year wage increases in major labor settlements declined from 10.5 percent in 1976 to 7.6 percent in 1977. The program will be phased out beginning April 1978. Companies and unions, however, will remain under control until the end of their fiscal and contract years, and the majority of firms and employees will still be subject to the guidelines through most of 1978. In 1977, unemployment was 8.5 percent, compared to the 7.2 percent in 1976.

During 1977, the Canadian dollar declined substantially in value in relation to the U.S. dollar. In 1976, the Canadian dollar averaged \$1.01 in \$U.S. currency; in 1977, it averaged \$0.94, reaching a low of \$0.90 in November. Canadian international reserves stood at \$4.8 billion at the end of 1977, down \$1.2 billion from 1976. Total exports increased 16 percent in 1977 to \$40.7 billion, and imports increased 12 percent to \$39.5 billion. Sev-

enty percent of Canadian trade was with the United States.

Net farm income for 1977 is estimated down about 11 percent to \$3.06 billion. The decline is attributed primarily to rising costs. Cash receipts were up only slightly from 1976 levels. Despite a 50 percent increase in rapeseed, receipts for total crop production were down 5 percent, offsetting a 2-percent increase from livestock production. Farm costs for 1977 rose 7 percent to a record high of \$7.78 billion. Increases in the cost of farm labor and fuel, were identified as contributing factors.

Agricultural Production

Area planted to wheat for 1977 declined 10 percent—from 11.2 million hectares to 10.1 million hectares. Conditions were unusually dry when the crop was planted and unusually wet when it was harvested. Despite the initial dry weather, yields averaged 1.94 tons per hectare which was higher than the average of 1.70 tons for the previous 10 years. Wheat production equaled 19.6 million tons but the cold, wet harvest weather significantly affected quality.

In those areas harvested before the start of the wet weather, the crop was graded Canadian Western Red Spring (CWRS) No. 1 and No. 2. In those areas where the harvest took place during or after the wet weather, the crop was graded CWRS No. 3 with substantial quantities of feed wheat. About 21 percent of the crop is expected to grade CWRS No. 1, 22 percent is expected to grade CWRS No. 2, 37 percent is CWRS No. 3 and the majority of the remaining 20 percent is expected to be utility grades.

Area planted to coarse grains, at 8.4 million hectares, was slightly higher than in 1976; oats and rye decreased 12 and 4 percent, respectively, while barley and corn increased 7 and 3 percent, respectively. Total coarse grain production equaled 22.2 million tons, up about 4 percent from the previous year. Yields of 2.48 tons per hectare for barley and 6.00 tons for corn were record highs. Barley production reached 11.5 million tons, up 10 percent from year earlier levels. Corn production was up 16 percent from 1976, at 4.4 million tons.

Area in oilseeds expanded 77 percent to 2.1 million hectares in 1977, after major cutbacks in 1976 when the focus was on expanding wheat production. The major oilseeds are rapeseed and flaxseed, produced in Western Canada for export and soybeans produced in Eastern Canada with additional supplies imported from the United States. Production of each of the oilseeds more than doubled; rapeseed increased to 1.8 million tons, flaxseed to 610,000, and soybeans to 517,000.

After several years of declining slaughter rates,

there is evidence that pork production started to turn around in 1977. January 1, 1978 hogs on farms were up 8 percent and Federally inspected slaughter was up 8 percent in 1977, compared with a 3 percent decline in 1976. The 1976 census indicated that, in recent years, there has been a shift in production from western to eastern Canada as producing units increased from an average of 66 to 91 hogs per farm.

In recent years, the cattle sector has been characterized by declining cattle inventories, high slaughter rates, and low prices. The decline in the cattle inventory continued in 1977, and January 1978 numbers were down 6 percent from year-earlier levels. Cow slaughter, which rose on a year-to-year basis from the fall of 1974 to the fall of 1976, has trended downward (with a few exceptions) each quarter since. Steer slaughter, which peaked in the last half of 1976 and the first half of 1977, is now on the downswing; however, heifer slaughter has continued unabated in 1977.

At the end of October 1977, Canadian chicken slaughter was up 3.2 percent and stocks of chicken meat were down 23.2 percent from year earlier levels. Canadian turkey production is under a supply management program controlled by the Canadian Turkey Marketing Agency (CTMA). Buildups in turkey meat stocks and slumping consumption have characterized the 1977 situation. In 1977, Turkey meat production was estimated to have reached about 98,000 tons, up 3 percent from a year earlier. Egg production, which is under a supply management program controlled by the Canadian Egg Marketing Agency (CEMA), was down slightly from 1976 production levels, at 436 million dozen.

The dairy sector operates under a supply management program controlled by the Canadian Dairy Commission (CDC). Canadian milk production in 1977 reached about 7.7 million tons. The dairy herd, at 1.9 million head, is about equal to the 1976 size. Butter production in 1977 was down about 3 percent to 111,000 tons. Cheddar cheese output rose to 79,000 tons. Stocks of nonfat dry milk (NFDM) dropped 58 percent in 1977, reflecting an 85 percent jump in NFDM exports to 181,000 tons for the year and reduced butter output that lowered the supply of skim milk for NFDM production.

Trade

Canadian agricultural imports reached \$3.4 billion, up 14 percent from 1976. Imports of live animals were up 52 percent, fresh and frozen meat by 15 percent, and fresh fruits and vegetables by 21 percent. Over half of Canadian agricultural

imports came from the United States. Those imports accounted for almost all live animals, and two-thirds of the fruits and vegetables and fresh and frozen meat imports.

Canadian agricultural exports increased 7 percent to \$4.0 billion in 1977. Cereals and cereal preparations accounted for 56 percent of agricultural exports, and only 17-percent of the total went to the United States. Eighty-seven percent of live animals and 36 percent of meat exports, however, were shipped to the United States. U.S. agricultural exports to Canada increased 4 percent in 1977 to \$1.6 billion, while imports were up 12 percent to \$672 million.

In 1974, Canada became a net importer of pork from the United States, due to the combined effects of the Japanese contract exports and declining domestic production upon supplies for domestic consumption. Canada remained a net importer of pork from the United States in 1977, despite a 7-percent decline in the volume of U.S. pork exports to Canada.

Canadian imports and exports of beef and veal were down in 1977. Canadian imports of beef and veal for the calendar year were limited by a global quota to 66,000 tons, 11,000 tons of which were allotted to the United States, 17,000 tons to Australia, and 28,000 tons to New Zealand. Australia and New Zealand essentially filled their quotas, while the United States shipped only 56 percent of its quota.

Canadian exports of beef and veal to the United States were limited to 34,000 tons; the quota was increased to 36,300 tons in November, although not completely filled. The decline in the value of the Canadian dollar has been a factor making the price of Canadian slaughter cattle relatively attractive to U.S. buyers, and exports to the United States were heavy in the last half of the year.

Canada has imposed a global quota of 66,000 tons on imports of beef and veal, with 11,400 tons allocated to the United States, 27,300 tons to Australia, and 27,900 tons to New Zealand. Canadian exports of beef and veal to the United States will be limited to 34,500 tons.

Outlook

Real GNP in 1978 is expected to increase about 3 to 4 percent. Consumer expenditure is expected to be relatively strong, although private investment spending is expected to remain stagnant. Unemployment will probably continue to increase, reaching about 9 percent in 1978. According to Canadian government economists, farm receipts may rise about 3 percent, which may be a conservative estimate in light of recent commodity price increases. An estimated 7-percent increase in farm

costs, however, will probably result in a 6-percent decline in net farm income. Adequate supplies of farm inputs are expected for 1978.

Wheat exports in the current August-July 1977/78 marketing year are expected to reach 16 million tons—the second highest volume exported since 1960/61, and considerably above the 13.5 million tons exported in 1976/77. Sales of 4.5 million tons of wheat to China and 3.5 million tons to the USSR accounted for a major portion of the increase. Wheat stocks are expected to be drawn down to about 11 million tons because of the large export volumes. It is anticipated that Durum supplies will be completely depleted through 1977/78 exports, and high-quality Red Spring wheat supplies will have to be built-up from 1978 production.

Export movements of feed grains in 1977/78 have been slow and are not expected to exceed 4 million tons. Because prices and demand for wheat and rapeseed appear more favorable than for feed grains, their areas may expand in 1978. Total wheat acreage is expected to increase about 2 percent; a 5 percent decrease in Spring wheat will be offset by a 97 percent increase in Durum acreage.

Abundant supplies of feed wheat and feed grains at relatively low prices are expected to be reflected in increased feeding in the livestock sectors. Hog slaughter is expected to continue rising—about 6 to 8 percent above year earlier levels in the first half of 1978. As pork production expands in the next few years, prices are expected to decline and per capita consumption, which was down substantially during the recent period of high pork prices, is expected to increase.

If the export contracts with Japan are not renewed, it is possible that Canada will return to a more traditional relationship in pork trade with the United States in the next few years. Canada probably will not return to a net exporter position, however, until at least 1980.

In the next few years, cattle slaughter will probably decline and cattle and beef prices will move upward. The beef cow and steer slaughter rate is expected to ease in 1978, and total cattle slaughter will probably decline 4 to 6 percent. Beef production should fall proportionately less than the cattle slaughter rate due to increased cattle-feeding and the resultant heavier cattle carcass weights.

Canada is presently in the process of formulating a National Chicken Marketing Agency, the development of which may affect production and trade in chickens in 1978. Domestic production in 1978, however, is currently expected to be about the same as the 1977 level, and imports from the United States are expected to continue. Turkey production should be down in 1978 because the CTMA has reduced the turkey production quota from 94,000 tons in 1977 to 87,000 tons for 1978. The

Canadian Egg Marketing Agency (CEMA) has effected a reduction in egg production by ordering a 5-percent cutback in the placements of pullet chicks on Canadian farms by January 1978.

No major changes are foreseen in the level of

Canadian milk production for 1978. If an upturn in milk production becomes evident, however, adjustments may be made in supply management to tailor production to possibly declining demand. (*Carol E. Bray*)

MEXICO

Capital shortages and uncertainty, resulting from the earlier monetary crisis and devaluations, reduced Mexico's private investment and business activity in early 1977. However, agriculture recovered, petroleum output trended up again, and record exports reduced the lage balance of payments (BOP) deficit by over one-half. Efforts of the new Government helped to reduce high rates of inflation and increase economic stability. Some restoration of business confidence was indicated by reversal of capital flight and a modest rise in industrial output in late 1977. However, unemployment increased sharply, and overall economic growth was up only moderately from the reduced 1977 rate.

Mexico still faces serious problems, during 1978, including a BOP deficit in excess of \$1 billion and the need to expand employment for a rapidly growing labor force. Government policies are expected to increase public expenditures and encourage capital investments in activities with good potentials for increasing employment and exports. Investment capital will probably remain tight, business will continue somewhat cautious, and Government efforts will still emphasize restraints against inflation. However, some further recovery in economic growth appears likely during the coming year.

In 1977, agriculture responded to higher prices, and total output rebounded from the 1976 decline to slightly exceed the long-term trend, led by expansion of export crops and a strong recovery in oilseeds. Agricultural exports advanced to a new high, estimated at \$1.5 billion, and imports increased 11 percent to about \$750 million. The United States continued as Mexico's principal trading partner, taking 75 percent of exports and supplying about 90 percent of the agricultural imports.

After trending up since 1972, wheat production fell 30 percent below the 1976 record because of rust damage, the lower availability of irrigation water, and land tenure problems which encouraged a shift to cotton and oilseeds. Corn production was estimated slightly above the 1976 record, and late 1977 harvest volumes for sorghum, rice, and beans were up moderately. The sharp rise in cottonseed added to larger harvests of soybeans, safflower,

and sesame seed; total oilseed output in 1977 exceeded the previous year by more than one-third, but remained below the long-term trend.

Horticultural crops expanded strongly in response to higher prices associated with the 1976 devaluations and prospects for stronger U.S. demand; major gains were in tomatoes, strawberries, oranges, and grapefruit. Producers also further increased area in cotton, and the midyear harvest rose nearly 56 percent above the 1976 level to about 60 percent of the peak volumes reached in the early sixties. Coffee recovered, and the late 1977/78 harvest was estimated at about the 1975/76 record.

Strong export demand continued as a stimulus to the cattle industry. Beef production continued up, rising about 6 percent. After doubling in 1976, cattle exports to the United States advanced a further 10 percent in 1977. Pork output also continued up strongly, but increasing costs limited expansion in dairy and poultry products until prices were raised late in the year.

The unusually strong rise in agricultural trade earnings can be attributed to increased quantities and prices for fresh and processed fruits and vegetables, cattle, and meat, along with higher prices for coffee—Mexico's principal agricultural export. While coffee shipments were below the high volumes of a year earlier, earnings still reached a new high and accounted for about 43 percent of total agricultural exports. Larger cotton exports, mainly from the 1976 crop, were partly offset by declining prices which caused producers to hold back supplies after midyear. Larger exports of cattle and beef to the United States were supplemented by increased meat sales to other countries including Japan, Italy, and Sweden.

The improving trade situation and the Government program to restrict inflation appeared to be factors contributing to larger agricultural imports in 1977. Purchases of oilseeds, oilmeals, and vegetable oils were increased to near-record volumes to meet shortfalls in 1976 production. Imports of corn, sorghum grain, and animal fats were also up sharply. Mexico reentered the world wheat market for large purchases, following the poor midyear harvest.

The Government is expected to give added priority to agriculture in 1978, while continuing to stress low food costs for modest income families under a National Plan of Basic Food Commodities. Main plan features are producer support and flexible market prices, adjustments of price margins between basic and less essential commodities, and special resource financing. The Government increased official price ceilings on fluid milk and eggs in late 1977 and, in February, removed them on a large number of other food commodities including nonfat milk, lard, cereals, and beef.

Agricultural performance may also reflect a greater degree of confidence and increased investment by producers in response to the 1977 resolution of land tenure problems and the step-up in public investment programs. Mexico's new Secretariat of Agriculture and Water Resources has been allocated 16 percent of the new federal budget, a percentage exceeded only by public education. A large percentage of the allocated funds will be used to improve efficiency of dry land production.

The support price for wheat was increased sharply and production is expected to recover strongly in 1978. However, plantings of cotton may decline because of large supplies and lower prices, and soybeans may be reduced because of continuing low supplies of irrigation water. No large increases are anticipated for other grains and livestock products. Total production of fruits and vegetables are forecast slightly above 1977 with significant increases expected for tropical commodities including coffee and sugar.

Agricultural exports will reflect larger supplies from the 1977 cotton and coffee crops, but growth of earnings will be limited because of lower world prices. Wheat imports will probably exceed the 1977 level of about 450,000 tons, with the 1978 total dependent on production from the midyear crop. Corn imports are expected to continue near the 1977 volume of about 1.7 million tons but increased supplies from late 1977 harvests may reduce import requirements for other grains, oilseeds, and oilseed products. (John E. Link)

THE CARIBBEAN

Cuba

Official reports indicate a moderate recovery of the Cuban economy in 1977 with growth of 3.8 percent, compared with a 2 percent rate in 1976. Recovery was mainly attributed to further expansion from new developments in domestic manufacturing, construction, power, and other public services which helped offset the reduced level of trade earnings. Agriculture was affected, to some degree, by the 1976 drought and the early onset of heavy 1977 rains, which provided excellent conditions for late 1977 and early 1978 crops. Based upon an anticipated improvement in agriculture and some rise in world prices for sugar, the main export, the Government has forecast 1978 economic growth to exceed the 6-percent target of the 1976-80 development plan for the first year.

Drought, considered the most severe in recent history, reportedly reduced sugarcane yields and, while wet weather resulted in serious problems and extension of the harvest period, 1977 sugar output was estimated down only slightly from the 6.2 million tons of the previous year. The tobacco crop declined because of wet weather, but production of citrus and other fruits continued up strongly and provided increased exports.

Dry weather and irrigation water shortages reduced plantings of rice, the principal food crop, and production was estimated down 20 percent to about 310,000 tons of paddy. Government sources indicated a poor year for tubers, roots, and vegetables. However, rains replenished irrigation water supplies and provided excellent conditions for pastures, forage, and late crops. The output of meat, milk, and poultry products rose further in response to strong development programs.

Preliminary data suggest that Cuba's 1977 exports of sugar, in raw equivalent, were 5.8 million tons, about the same as 1976; but earnings were down sharply. The USSR increased in importance in the sugar trade, as shipments reached a record of 3.6 million tons but sales to the other Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CEMA) countries were estimated 500,000 tons compared with the year earlier 660,000 tons. Cuba's trade with China increased from the 1976 volume of 255,000 to about 300,000 tons. However, exports to Japan and Spain remained sharply below peaks of earlier years, and sugar earnings from other hard currency markets were cut back because of increased competition and a further decline in world sugar prices.

In spite of the reduced level of export earnings, Cuban agricultural imports probably probably maintained a moderate rising trend in 1977. Imports of wheat and flour, mainly of Canadian origin on Soviet account, were estimated up from 1976 at about 1 million tons in wheat equivalent. Purchases of corn, which have grown in

cipal commodity imports were corn, wheat, rice, importance under programs to expand poultry and pork production, were also increased. Imports of rice were estimated near the 1976 level of 200,000 tons, considerably below peak volumes of 250,000 or more in the early seventies. Further import increases appear probable for pulses, lard, vegetable oils, oilseed meals, and dairy products which are significant in Cuba's total food imports, estimated at a record \$760 million in 1976.

According to July 1977 estimates, the area in sugarcane was less than a year earlier. However, in contrast with the severe drought in 1976, growing conditions were unusually good. Completion of a mechanical harvester plant and additions of milling capacity were expected to increase efficiency of the sugar harvest and, based upon estimated availability of cane, 1978 sugar output was officially forecast 8 to 10 percent above 1977. However, unusually heavy rains have again hampered the harvest, and operations were lagging established targets sharply through March 1978, increasing the possibility of lower than planned sugar output.

Replenishment of irrigation water supplies permitted larger rice plantings, and production may recover to near record levels, permitting smaller imports in 1978. The outlook for other domestic food and forage crops remain favorable. Larger citrus and tobacco harvests are expected to add to export earnings. Cuba will continue as a rising market for wheat and feed grains, and a brighter economic and trade outlook suggests that imports will rise to fill larger deficits in other basic food commodities.

In 1978, a major share of Cuban sugar exports will continue to move under quotas established by trade agreements with the USSR and other CEMA countries; but those exports are expected to fall significantly from the 1977 record of about 4 million tons. Sales to non-CEMA socialist countries may also be limited because of strong competition. Somewhat larger supplies of Cuban sugar are expected to be available to the free world market subject to provisions of the new International Sugar Agreement (ISA).

The new ISA agreement, which provisionally entered into force on January 1, established Cuba as the major supplier with a basic quota of 2.5 million tons. Basic quotas are reduced and provisions for exporter stock accumulations are effective at present low world prices. Current estimates suggest that Cuba can probably comply with the new ISA committments. The lower provisional quota may still permit some rise in their hard currency sugar earnings which have fallen sharply from the 1974 peak. The agreement may also stimulate recovery in world price to exceed the lower 11-cent-per-pound limit later this year. (Howard L. Hall)

Dominican Republic

Dominican economic growth for 1977 fell considerably below the 1976 rate of 6.3 percent because of drought damage to agriculture, a slowdown in construction activity, and a third consecutive year of conservative government fiscal policy. Increased coffee and cocoa earnings boosted exports 9 percent and high capital inflows helped increase yearend foreign exchange reserves 45 percent above the 1976 record. After a 1976 decline, the inflation rate rose sharply, and policies of monetary and fiscal restraints will probably continue. However, some economic recovery is anticipated in 1978 based upon improvements in agriculture and the possibility of some strengthening in the world sugar price.

Growth of agriculture was limited to about 1 percent by drought which continued into early 1977. Sugar output was slightly above the 1976 record in spite of dry weather, and the later coffee harvest recovered sharply. Rice, the principal grain, was given priority in use of irrigation water but decreased 5 percent from a year earlier, and peanut production continued at a reduced level. Declines exceeded 15 percent for most other crops including beans, corn, and sweet potatoes. After considerable 1976 recovery from the prolonged drought, the livestock sector experienced another serious setback, particularly in beef, which was affected more than dairy and pork production.

Agricultural exports, estimated at \$545 million in 1977, were up by 13 percent over 1976, and imports increased 7 percent to \$150 million. Sugar exports increased 21 percent but total value continued to decline; the increase in total trade earnings was mainly because of higher prices for coffee and cocoa beans. While imports of wheat were reduced from the high volume of the previous year, purchases of rice almost doubled. Imports of corn were increased nearly one-half to supply rising demand for feeding and trade in oilseed products increased. The United States continued to supply about 80 percent of total agricultural imports.

The optimistic 1978 outlook is based mainly on improved prospects for agriculture and trade and related reduction in inflationary pressures, although deficits are anticipated in both the foreign trade and payments. Based upon significant improvement in moisture conditions, further expansion is anticipated for sugar output with strong recovery in the principal food crops and livestock products. Projected increases range from 10 to 20 percent for most food products. If these increases occur, agricultural exports are expected to increase by about 15 percent, and imports should decline somewhat. However, larger imports are projected for wheat, corn, soybeans, and vegetable oils. The

United States is expected to supply all wheat, corn, and soybeans, while Central America and Brazil will supply the bulk of the rice and peanut oil.

The Price Stabilization Institute (INESPRE) is expected to exercise marketing controls and support prices for rice, beans, corn, vegetable oils, sugar, onions, garlic, chickpeas, potatoes, bananas, and plantains. Subsidies will be continued for molasses in livestock feed, beans, and potato seed. Fertilizer and farm implements will be distributed at cost through established outlets. Import and export permits will be required for practically all agricultural products in order to stabilize food supplies. The United States extended a \$30-million line of credit to the Dominican Republic under the CCC program to purchase agricultural products in 1977, and USAID granted a \$15-million loan for the continuation of agricultural development programs. (Frank D. Barlow)

Haiti

Preliminary forecasts indicate that the Haitian economy grew about 2.5 percent in 1977, compared with an estimated 5 percent for 1976 and a 1970-75 average of 3.5 percent. Agriculture, which contributes about 46 percent of the GDP, suffered severe drought early in the year which also curtailed electric power output. Manufacturing and construction continued as the most dynamic activities, although current growth is significantly below high rates of the early seventies.

In contrast to relatively low rates which prevailed a year earlier, drought and food shortages resulted in a sharp rise in inflation in early 1977. While inflationary pressures eased later in the year, the 1977 rate was significantly above the 10 percent for 1976. Terms of trade continued to improve, reflecting higher prices for coffee, the principal export. Larger export earnings, coupled with increased receipts from loans and grants from international financial agencies, permitted increased imports to meet food shortages and a general expansion in the public investment program. Rising imports increased the trade deficit, but capital and other inflows permitted a continued moderate rise in yearend foreign exchange reserves.

Despite its importance, agriculture remains small scale, and the overall growth has averaged less than 1 percent in the past decade. Overall output continued a slight downtrend in 1977, partly because of drought induced reductions in rice, sugar, and coffee. This was offset by strong recoveries in other crops, including corn, cocoa beans, and sisal. Some improvement in production practices for coffee is attributed to higher prices to growers

beginning in 1977, and financial and technical assistance from international agencies may stimulate further improvement. However, in face of rising costs, production of sugar and sisal have trended down in recent years.

Agricultural exports continued up sharply in 1977, paced by increased volume and high prices for coffee; total imports by the United States, Haiti's principal market, increased 31 percent to about \$40 million. However, U.S. agricultural exports, including substantial quantities of grains and vegetable oils under Public Law-480, were up 58 percent to \$50 million. Normally a net exporter of sugar, Haiti imported 10,000 tons in 1977 to meet domestic requirements.

The 1976-81 development plan gives strong priority to public investment in agriculture and related infrastructure to achieve national goals of 5 percent annual economic growth. Further inflows of capital and technical assistance from the United States and international agencies are anticipated in 1978. Barring the effects of adverse weather, agricultural production should exceed the 1977 levels. However, the need for imported food commodities will continue to increase and further requests for assistance under the United States P.L.-480 programs are expected. (Frank D. Barlow)

Jamaica

Jamaica's economy fell back about 4 percent in 1977, following a 6 percent GDP decline in 1976. The continuing poor performance was due to the sluggish world demand for alumina and bauxite which account for about two-thirds of exports, to the drop in sugar production and prices, and to further deterioration in tourist revenues. The economy also suffered from depressed agricultural output and high import costs for fuels and other inputs. The country continued to pursue expansionary fiscal policies to help reduce the extremely high level of unemployment, and inflation increased from a 1976 rate of 10 percent to 14 percent in 1977.

To cope with the economic decline the Government took measures to deal with the serious balance of payments problems, to raise agricultural output, and to reduce food imports. Among the specific activities undertaken were plans to facilitate land distribution programs, reorganization of their Department of Agriculture, addition of new agricultural research and extension programs, improvement of agricultural commodity marketing, expansion of agricultural credit programs, establishment of new irrigation and drainage systems, and modernization of three sugar mills.

Agricultural imports from the United States increased by 7 percent to \$81 million in 1977. Prin-

vegetable oils, soybeans, soybean meal, animal feed, tobacco, tallow, poultry parts, and hatching eggs. Overall prospects for 1978 hinge heavily upon improvements in the world demand for bauxite and alumina and improvements in agricultural output. Although the Government's plans for improving agricultural output are ambitious, the 1978 performance will depend primarily on the weather. (Frank D. Barlow)

Trinidad and Tobago

The Trinidadian economy grew moderately in 1977, relative to the previous year. The result was an 8-percent increase in petroleum output which contributed about 40 percent to the GDP. Disappointing results were evident in manufacturing, because of declining exports to other CARICOM trading partners, particularly Jamaica and Guyana, which suffered severe balance of payments problems. Construction activity was adversely affected by material shortages, and agricultural output fell slightly.

Retail prices continued up at a rate of about 12 percent annually in 1977, although the Government continued comprehensive price controls and subsidies. The balance of trade improved by nearly 10 percent because of larger petroleum exports. Principal agricultural imports, mainly wheat, feed grains, rice and vegetables rose slightly in 1977; agricultural commodities account for about 7 percent of the total imports. The United States supplies about one-third of Trinidad's agricultural imports.

Although agricultural production declined in 1977, performance varied by commodities. Coffee,

cocoa, and rice showed strong gains; output of meat and poultry increased moderately; and sugar, citrus, tobacco, and milk production fell. Increased availability of agricultural credit on favorable terms was offset by traditional problems, such as shortages of labor and inadequate marketing facilities.

The prospects for continued economic growth in 1978 are favorable. The nonagricultural sectors, which were showing improvement late in 1977, are expected to advance. A mild recovery is anticipated for sugar, cocoa, citrus, tobacco, and livestock products. Imports of wheat and rice are expected to continue up, with the United States sharing about one-half of the wheat market and Canada and Guyana supplying most of the rice. Increased imports of U.S. oilseeds, vegetable oils, tallow, and soybean meal are expected. Increased domestic demand is expected to lead to larger imports of potatoes, onions, garlic, fresh and frozen vegetables, and vegetable and meat preparations.

The heavy emphasis placed on agricultural support prices and subsidy incentive programs will continue into 1978. Land preparation subsidies are expected to range from \$10 to \$15 per acre, while acreage subsidies for drainage and terracing range from \$5 to \$20. Incentive payments will continue for such things as froghopper control, livestock housing, and irrigation development of up to onethird of the cost, not exceeding \$1200. Consumer price and import controls are expected to continue. The Government also is expected to continue its active role in encouraging agricultural development through liberal credit, the control of feed pricing, direct ownership of the sugar industry, and a new company, National Feed Mills Limited. (Frank D. Barlow)

CENTRAL AMERICA

Costa Rica

Costa Rica's economy appears to have had a good year in 1977, with a further recovery in growth. Domestic economic activity remained at high levels with a very tight labor market, but otherwise there were no significant restraints to productivity arising from input shortages. Industry was stimulated by a further rise of exports to the other Central American countries which added to larger earnings from coffee and cocoa. The balance of payments performance remained satisfactory in spite of a sharp rise in imports and the trade balance was reduced. Favorable economic conditions encouraged larger private foreign capital flows which contributed to the buoyant state of the economy and a doubling of foreign exchange reserves.

Agricultural production declined again in 1977, because of continuing dry weather centering in the Pacific lowlands. Rice and corn were hardest hit; total grain production was estimated at 17 percent below a year earlier. Banana production fell off slightly and a severe dry period, at the first flowering, reduced bright: prospects for coffee; production remained near 1976 levels. Higher prices encouraged better practices and some increase in cocoa. Increased harvested area offset a slight decline in yields, as sugar production increased about 5 percent. Output of livestock products continued up moderately based upon increases in beef and milk.

Coffee became the most important agricultural export in 1977, with earnings of \$297 million—up 92 percent from 1976. Earnings from bananas, the second export, was down 9 percent to \$135 million.

Beef sales continued up, reaching \$44 million, resulting from an added U.S. quota allocation and larger exports to Venezuela. Sugar exports continued down from the 1975 peak to \$17 million, but cocoa bean sales more than doubled the 1976 record to \$16 million. Because of rising consumer demand, purchases of wheat, the major agricultural import, continued to rise and volumes of other cereals, fats, and oilmeals were increased to meet larger shortfalls in production. U.S. agricultural imports from Costa Rica increased about one-third in 1977 to \$255 million, and U.S. exports, mainly wheat, were up 10 percent to \$30 million.

The economy is expected to continue a high rate of growth in 1978. The outlook for trade appears less favorable because of lower world prices, particularly for coffee. This may tend to increase inflation and monetary problems. Because of smaller 1977 grain harvests, corn imports for 1978 are forecast at about 40,000 tons, and wheat purchases will be up sharply to about 90,000 tons. (John E. Link)

El Salvador

The Salvadorian economy strengthened in 1977 and growth was up moderately, owing mainly to strong trade gains. Export earnings continued up sharply, rising about 37 percent above the 1976 high, contributing to a trade surplus, and a moderate rise in foreign exchange reserves. However, the unusual monetary inflows from exports through early 1977 generated inflation, which increased from a rate of about 7 percent in 1976 to 15 or more; private consumption and public expenditures did not expand in real terms. Adverse weather restricted agricultural output, construction declined, and private investment reflected uncertainty associated with changes in government and the world coffee situation.

An optimistic outlook for agriculture was dimmed by the recurrence of severe drought after midyear, and 1977 output was estimated near the reduced 1976 level. The early sugarcane harvest benefitted from late 1976 rains, and sugar output continued up sharply, rising about 10 percent. Dry weather contributed to sharp drops in production from later harvests of coffee and rice. Dry weather also hurt cotton, but larger plantings increased production by about 9 percent to approximate records of 1973-74. The late-year corn and sorghum crops were less affected and, with larger plantings, production was near-record. Cattle slaughter fell because of lower export prices, and output of pork and milk were up only slightly. However, poultry is still increasing rapidly and chicken meat production doubled to about 15,000 tons in 1977.

Shipments of coffee, the principal export, were

below the record 1976 volume because of restrictions imposed late in the year, but earnings nearly doubled. Increased volume and higher prices also boosted the values of cotton exports by about 84 percent. However, sugar exports trended down in face of low world prices. Purchases of wheat, the main agricultural import, rose sharply to a record 103,000 tons in 1977 adding to larger requirements for breeding animals, fats, and other commodities. U.S. agricultural trade with El Salvador increased to new highs; imports and exports both increased 56 percent above 1976 records of \$205 million and \$31 million, respectively.

Recent trends suggest an economic slowdown in 1978 because of inflation, trade and monetary problems, and less favorable export prices. Conditions should be favorable for an increase in the 1977/78 coffee crop, adding to larger than usual carryover stocks; however, El Salvador may continue to cooperate with other producers in limiting exports to maintain prices. Large supplies could encourage record sugar exports with the trade level depending on results of the new International Sugar Agreement and U.S. sugar import policy. El Salvador also has large cotton stocks, but lower prices are likely to restrict 1978 export and production. The outlook for beef production and trade is reported to be favorable. It appears likely that wheat consumption and imports will continue to expand at a yearly rate of about 5 percent. (John E. Link)

Guatemala

Guatemala enjoyed another prosperous year, with economic growth estimated slightly below the 1976 rate of 7.6 percent. Agriculture, mining, construction, and manufacturing expanded more slowly but trade, investment, and other services made strong gains. Imports and exports reached an approximate balance with both at \$1.2 billion, and net capital inflows help build yearend foreign exchange reserves to a new high representing about 6 months of imports. The 1978 outlook is for a somewhat lower economic growth, because of a drop in coffee revenues. Inflation, which has continued at 13 to 15 percent in spite of Government monetary and Cal restraints, will remain a serious problem area.

Efforts of the new Government to increase production of food crops have included higher price support levels, increased appropriation of funds to agriculture, and larger storage capacity for grains and other staple commodities. Prices of most products that were frozen after the February 1976 earthquake were relaxed during 1977. However, the Government still maintains control over prices paid for many raw and processed food commodities

including meats, grains and cereals, vegetable oils, sugar, and milk. Import and export controls, including licensing and quotas, are maintained to assure adequate supplies and control prices.

Favorable 1977 prospects for agriculture were reduced by extremes of wet and dry weather, and total output was estimated 3.6 percent below the 1976 record. Production of coffee and sugar fell sharply from high volumes of a year earlier. Increased plantings boosted cotton production to near the 1976 record and contributed to some recovery in corn and sorghum, but other grains and beans declined. However, unusually strong domestic demand encouraged a sharp upswing in cattle slaughter and meat production exceeded the 1976 record by about 17 percent.

Agricultural exports reached a value of \$544 million in 1977, approximating 46 percent of total trade earnings. Exceptional gains in coffee, the principal export, were supported by strong sales of cotton and sugar and higher prices for lesser products including meat, spices, and vegetables. In addition to wheat, imports of \$52 million included larger purchases of corn, feedstuffs, vegetable oils, animal fats, and dairy products. The United States remained dominant in the trade; U.S. agricultural imports from Guatemala increased 37 percent to \$352 million and exports were up 7 percent to \$43 million.

Some recovery in crop production is expected this year and further gains are anticipated for livestock output, but the trade outlook appears less favorable partly because of lower 1977 crop production. In spite of larger than usual carryover stocks. export availabilities of coffee will be lower and earnings may fall sharply. Cotton production and trade probably will decline in response to lower prices but moderate increases in exports of sugar. bananas, and meat appear likely. Wheat imports are expected to rise to about 80,000 tons, with bean imports around 15,000 tons. Corn consumption continues to expand and imports are expected to increase. Guatemala will continue to provide a small but growing market for vegetable oils, animal fats, and dairy products. (John E. Link)

Honduras

Preliminary information indicates that 1977 was a fairly good year for Honduras. Exports were up nearly 46 percent through the third quarter of 1977, compared to 1976, while imports grew only 32 percent. Banana exports were up 57 percent and coffee exports jumped 88 percent. Beef exports to the United States were up 14 percent to 18.5 thousand tons. Honduras' international reserves increased 38 percent above the 1976 level and the consumer price index increased around 9 percent.

Agricultural output was about 13 percent higher than in 1976. Corn production jumped 24 percent above the 1976 level and was 2.8 percent above the long-term trend. The main factor in this increase was the expansion in the corn area. Sorghum production also increased sharply, but this was due to higher yields which offset a slight decline in area. Bean production dropped 20 percent.

High coffee prices encouraged better management practices and fertilization during 1977. This, along with about 21,000 hectares of new coffee area, pushed production up nearly 50 percent above the 1976 level. Banana production was higher, and sugar output reached a record of 107,000 tons, up 16 percent from 1976. Sugar exports were up sharply to 22,000 tons during 1977 and are expected to reach nearly 70,000 tons this year; production in 1978 is forecast to be nearly 150,000 tons.

Beef and veal production declined slightly because of the reduction in slaughter numbers. Weather in late 1977 resulted in good pasture conditions which should increase slaughter weight this year. Output of beef and veal is expected to increase about 9 percent in 1978.

U.S. agricultural exports to Honduras during 1977 were up 33 percent to \$26.0 million, and imports from Honduras were \$184.6 million, up 21 percent. (John E. Link)

Nicaragua

Overall, 1977 appeared to be a fairly good year for Nicaragua as its agriculture and trade experienced significant advances. Current estimates indicate the country ended 1977 with another surplus in its merchandise trade balance and a surplus in its balance of payments. High prices for coffee were mainly responsible for the trade surplus and, together with heavy official borrowing from abroad, accounted for much of the payments surplus. There was stagnation in the construction industry and a lack of new private investment. The outlook for 1978 is generally good, although it may not be as prosperous as 1976 or 1977.

Agricultural output increased 10 percent over 1976 and was about 6 percent above the long-term trend. Corn production increased, as area expanded and yield declined slightly. Output was nearly 10 percent higher than in 1976, but was also 6 percent below the long term trend. Sorghum area remained near the 1976 level but, with improved yield, output increased significantly over 1976 and was 17-percent above the long-term trend. Rice production jumped sharply because of a 30 percent increase in area and a 12-percent gain in yield.

Responding to high prices and prospects of their

continuing, cotton growers sharply increased 1977 acreage; current estimates indicate that 1977 production was up 19 percent—nearly 6 percent above the long-term trend. Domestic consumption is estimated to have increased slightly and exports to have increased nearly 25 percent during 1977. Better cultural practices and new planting resulted in coffee production increasing in 1977. Production in 1978 is expected to remain near 1977 levels. Exports in 1978 should increase slightly; however, they could be lower if the mild coffee-producing countries are successful in withholding their coffee from the market. Sugar output and exports were down sharply because of poor weather and a large shift in acreage to cotton. Estimates for 1978 have been revised downward because of the shift in acreage and prospects of continued low prices.

Beef and veal production increased slightly in 1977. Pasture conditions in the past few years have been poor and, as a result, slaughter weights have been lower than usual. Higher export prices in 1978 would likely increase meat exports and encourage production.

Imports of corn are expected to be somewhat higher in 1978. Sorghum imports and rice exports are expected to be near 1976 levels. U.S. agricultural imports from Nicaragua were down 9 percent to \$120 million in 1977, while U.S. agricultural exports to Nicaragua were up 4 percent to \$20.7 million. (John E. Link)

Panama

Agriculture was one of the bright spots in Panama's economy during 1977. Industrial output continued at about the 1976 level, while construction and other investments were down slightly. Both tourism and the banking industry continued to expand. Prices increased about 8 percent in 1977, up from the 1976 level, but below the high rates of 1973 and 1974.

Agricultural output increased about 9 percent above the 1976 level and slightly above the long-

term trend. Much of the increase is attributed to better weather conditions. A sharp jump in corn area offset a slight decline in yields as production increased 21 percent above 1976 and about 16 percent above the long-term trend. Wheat consumption continued to grow about 3 percent per year.

Banana production remained at the 1976 level, but exports were a record. Coffee output was slightly higher in 1977. The Government has established export quotas for the 1977/78 coffee crop. Estimating the production of export-quality coffee at 1,800 tons, the Government has fixed the export quota at 900 tons, with the remaining to be used in the domestic market. The Government has also required that all exports from the 1977/78 crop must receive at least \$3,439 per metric ton; and for any sale exceeding \$3,968 per ton, 50 percent of the excess will go into an exporters fund and 50 percent into a producers fund, which is to be distributed at the end of the year.

During the past few years, the Government has been actively involved in the expansion of sugar production. Output during 1977 was up sharply from 1976 to nearly 224,000 tons. Domestic needs require only a quarter of that, leaving the balance for the international market. Panama has signed the International Sugar Agreement (ISA) and has been assigned a basic export quota of 90,000 tons. The sugar industry now faces a large buildup in stocks and some possibility of qualifying to receive a share of the ISA's 200,000 ton hardship reserve provision.

In 1977, beef and veal production was higher. The Government formed a Livestock Advisory Commission at midyear and by early fall, 1977, halted meat exports to insure an adequate supply of beef for the domestic market. Exports were resumed in January 1978. Milk production was slightly higher in 1977.

U.S. agricultural exports to Panama were down slightly to \$44.6 million and U.S. agricultural imports from Panama were up 47 percent to \$71.8 million. (John E. Link)

SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina

After 2 years of decline, agricultural production and trade led recovery of the Argentine economy during 1977. Gross fixed investment, including purchases of former state-owned enterprises, had the highest growth rate since records began in 1968. However, consumption demand declined as Government expenditures continued to be cut back, wages lagged with inflation, tax collections

increased, and high interest rates built near record savings. As a result, the inflation rate was halved to 160 percent, still one of the highest in the world.

Because of higher prices resulting from market and trade liberalization, the area planted to grains and oilseeds for 1976/77 increased to a new high about 10 percent over 1975/76. The corn area declined, but wheat plantings expanded to 7.2 million hectares—the highest in over 30 years. Soybean and flaxseed plantings increased further by

60 and 53 percent, respectively. Extremely favorable weather boosted yields to records for corn, grain sorghum, barley, rye, soybean, flaxseed, and peanuts and produced record grain and oilseed harvests which totaled 32 million tons, compared with 24 million the previous year.

The competitive advantage of Argentine grains in 1977 was enhanced by less restrictive marketing operations and removal of high export taxes. Wheat, in particular, was most competitive in world trade, as FOB prices were significantly lower than the U.S. Gulf quotes early in the year. Grain shipments mounted to 16 million tons with wheat, corn and grain sorghum accounting for 15 million tons. The record 10.5 million tons shipped during the first half of the year was higher than most yearly totals. Improved transportation and port handling operations were largely responsible for the higher-than normal turnover.

Grain exports were increased to traditional markets and expanded to nontraditional ones. Substantially larger-than-normal sales were made to the following countries: Italy, wheat; Spain, corn and wheat; Japan, sorghum; and South America, corn and sorghum. Large wheat exports also moved to nontraditional markets including the PRC, Eastern Europe, and North African countries. Significant shipments of corn were sent to Cuba, Singapore, and Iran, and grain sorghum to Eastern Europe and Taiwan. The April-March 1977/78 quota on soybean exports was raised to 650,000 tons and by the end of 1977, 613,000 tons had been exported. Small amounts of flaxseed and peanuts were also shipped during 1977. Lower export tariffs are credited with raising oilseed meal exports to an estimated record of 1.3 million tons and oil exports to a near-record 480,000 tons. Principal soybean customers were the European Community (EC), Mexico, Singapore, Venezuela, Norway, and Morocco.

Cattle slaughter for 1977 is estimated up 5 percent over the previous year's record 13.9 of million head. Domestic consumption increased slightly, but foreign demand absorbed most of the slaughter increase, as exports rose by 83,000 to 613,000 tons in spite of limited access to traditional European markets. Increased sales to the USSR, Spain, the European Community, (EC), and African markets largely accounted for the higher export level. Relatively low prices for pasture-fed beef continued to keep poultry consumption at a low level of 7.8 kilos per capita. Domestic consumption of pork remained stable, while mutton and lamb increased by 14 percent.

Because of favorable weather, deciduous fruit output jumped almost 25 percent to 1.4 million tons, led by record harvests of apples and pears. Citrus fruit production increased about 6 percent, with largest gains from lemons and oranges. Total

fruit production was about the same as 1975/76, due to a 10 percent decline from a record grape harvest. Exports of deciduous fruit reached a record in 1977, with apples, pears, and table grapes showing the largest increases. Most of the shipments were to Western Europe and Brazil. Greater domestic consumption and considerably more processing reduced fresh citrus exports by 17 percent to 35,650 tons.

Sugarcane recovered from early poor weather and output increased 12 percent; higher sucrose yields boosted sugar production. As a result, exports from the 1976/77 crop were almost triple the previous year's 200,000 tons. Tobacco production was down by 15 percent due, in part, to reduced area, but mostly to poor weather during transplanting.

As a result of record and near-record crop production and larger beef sales, total export value is expected to be up 40 percent to \$5.5 billion. With agricultural trade accounting for 75 percent of total trade, this could result in over \$4 billion from the farm sector and enough to offset the country's import bill. The resulting trade balance of \$1.5 billion doubled foreign reserves and placed Argentina in a very favorable B.O.P. position which has been a major policy goal of the military Government.

The sanguine picture of last year is somewhat tarnished by current estimates for 1977/78. Due to falling world prices and dry weather, wheat plantings are estimated down 2.6 million hectares. May-September drought reduced yields and the harvest is now placed at about 5.2 million tons, down 53 percent from the previous year. Other small grain crops will be off by 500,000 tons from last season due to poor weather. Corn and grain sorghum areas apparently gained at the expense of reduced wheat plantings and timely rains reversed earlier expectations of lower yields. Current production estimates are 9.0 million tons for corn and 7.0 million tons for sorghum. Overall, grain production will slip to around 23 million tons, compared to last year's record 28 million tons.

In October 1977, wheat export registrations were halted by the Government in anticipation of a much reduced crop and the 1.4 million tons already committed could be reduced if the crop is lower than current estimates. At present world prices, the decline in wheat export earnings will be close to 400 million dollars. Because of improved prospects for corn and grain sorghum, coarse grain export availability from the 1977/78 crop is estimated to increase by almost 1 million to 10.5 million tons, corn at 5.8 million tons and sorghum at 4.5 million tons.

Oilseed production is estimated up one-third to nearly 5 million tons due to shifts from wheat and other small grains which increased area by 1.1 million hectares. The largest gains were in soybeans, sunflower and flaxseed. Because of limited crushing capacity, most of the increase in production will be exported as beans and seed. To facilitate this movement, the Government has removed quota restrictions and export taxes on oilseeds. Significant exports of sunflower, flaxseed, and peanuts have been authorized for the first time in several years, but exports may be below earlier expectations because of rain damage to the sunflower and peanut crops. Soybean exports are expected to reach a record 1 million tons, most of which has already been contracted.

Meat production, in 1978, is not expected to expand significantly. Domestic consumption offers little hope of absorbing production increases. The EC restriction on meat imports were broadened in November 1977 to include a ban on bone-in imports by Belgium, Italy and the Netherlands - a ban which the U.K. and West Germany already adhere to. This will affect not only sales of beef, but also pork and mutton and lamb which are not practical to debone. New markets are being developed for beef exports and the volume is growing. Non-European exports accounted for 40 percent of last year's exports, compared with 20 percent in 1973.

Raw fiber exports could make a significant comeback in 1978. The cotton area is estimated up 10 percent and higher yields could boost the total output by about 18 percent. Record lint production and zero export duties could significantly increase exports. Wool exports are also expected to expand as the export retention tax was reduced from 15 to 5 percent in November. November exports were a record 20,000 tons. (Myles Mielke)

Bolivia

Economic growth declined from the high 1975-76 rates to 5 percent, in 1977, because of declines in agriculture and petroleum, and signs of weakness which appeared late in the year. An improved export performance left a trade deficit of only \$30 million. The balance of payments deficit was \$220 million, but capital inflows helped increase yearend foreign exchange reserves to a record \$212 million. However, the inflation rate rose sharply to 18 percent. As 1978 is an election year, political and economic uncertainties may threaten the inflow of capital in 1978.

All sectors of the economy, except agriculture and petroleum, continued strong gains led by mining, industry, and construction. Part of the year's industrial growth was related to a big increase in wheat milling and oilseed crushing capacity. Exports benefitted from higher prices for tin, natural gas, and agricultural commodities. Value of tin

exports was up 44 percent, as price averaged \$5 a pound for 33,500 tons. However, depletion of existing wells caused daily petroleum production to drop from 42,000 barrels to 35,000 barrels. Drought at the end of 1976 was followed by lowland floods and a midyear drought on the altiplano. Practically all food crops suffered and scarcities put upward pressure on food prices.

The dismal record of food crops reflects the drought, with few exceptions. The 21 percent drop in paddy rice production, to 100,000 tons, is one of these. Farmers reduced area because of large carry-over stocks; then drought reduced yield. The drought also reduced barley yields to the point that production was down 35 percent; cut wheat production 31 percent, raising 1978 import needs to 260,000 tons; reduced corn production 12.9 percent to 299,000 tons, and created a tight supply situation for poultry and hog feed; and along with frosts, reduced the potato harvest 18 percent, driving prices up 30 percent. The 42 percent drop in soybean production was partly caused by reduced area.

Gains in the major export crops provided for both domestic and export markets. Cotton production was up 19 percent, following a 34 percent increase in area, and 9,450 tons were exported. Sugar production was up 5 percent to 280,000 tons, providing exports of 80,000 tons. Coffee production, which was up, provided exports of 6,000 tons. Livestock output, including beef, mutton, and pork made gains in 1977.

The 1978 outlook is a return to normal production levels for most food crops. Farmers will reduce area in rice because of poor prices. Corn will be much larger because of high domestic prices and some diversion of rice and cotton land. Agricultural credit for planting 18,500 hectares of soybeans may raise output to 22,000 tons. Growers will reduce cotton area because they expect price declines.

Bolivia imported 160,000 tons of wheat in 1977, 80,000 each from Argentina and the United States. Soybean oil imports were 12,800 tons. The United States has granted CCC credit for 110,400 tons of wheat for shipment up to August 31, 1978. (Samuel O. Ruff)

Brazil

In 1977, Brazil reduced economic growth sharply to cool off the overheated economy, reduce inflation, and ease serious balance of payments problems. Policies of fiscal restraint inspired an austere budget and energy conservation. Reduction of inflation occurred during the last half year; the 1977 rate of 39 percent compared with 46 percent in

1976, but industrial growth fell from 11 to about 4 percent. Increased agricultural output contributed strongly to record exports, up 20 percent to \$12.1 billion, which gave a surplus of \$120 million over imports, the first since 1973. The yearend payments (BOP) deficit was cut one-third to \$4 billion, and incoming foreign capital helped raise yearend exchange reserves to a new high of \$7.2 billion.

Economic goals for 1978 are to halt inflation and increase the trade surplus under continuing policies of fiscal restraints which may hold economic growth near the reduced 1977 rate. The agricultural outlook is generally less favorable in spite of strong government policies, progress of programs to increase coffee, cocoa, and sugarcane, and the further expansion of soybeans. Also, growth of agricultural exports earnings may be limited because of serious drought damage to soybeans and lower world prices for coffee. A larger wheat deficit will add to 1978 imports.

Agricultural growth in 1977, officially estimated at 8 percent or higher, resulted from cultivation of more land, partial recovery of coffee production, and recovery of the northeast from drought. Soybeans, sugarcane and corn set records and progress in diversification showed in a large list of harvest increases for other crops. Factors that favored growth in 1977 were good price prospects, abundance of land, generous allocation of public resources, and good weather. Brazil allocated the following resources to the sector: about 15 billion in credit, one of the world's largest agricultural credit systems; loans of over \$1 billion under the minimum price support system; an \$88 million budget for the national research agency (EM-BRAPA); and larger investments in infrastructure.

Three traditional export commodities that were outstanding in economic importance in 1977 were coffee, cocoa, and sugarcane. Coffee production nearly doubled, reaching a halfway recovery to the prefrost capacity of 1.4 million tons. The rise reflected good weather and success of the billion dollar replanting program. Cocoa production was below the high volume of the previous year, but the unusually large sugarcane harvest provided a record sugar output and increased raw material for anhydrous alcohol that will be mixed with gasoline.

Because of drought in the frontier states, the early 1977 rice harvest was below the 1976 record. Excessive rains and disease outbreaks spoiled a wheat program financed to produce 3.5 million tons, and the reduced harvest left a larger deficit for 1978 imports. However, the record corn harvest supplied growing domestic needs and larger exports in 1977. Favorable price stimulated recovery in cotton and production increased 47 percent to the highest level since 1973. Output of soybeans,

the major commodity in the fats and oils group, rose strongly above the 1976 record. Other strong performances were tobacco and oranges, with significant recoveries recorded for beans, sisal, and castor beans.

Production of beef, pork, and chicken meat was up sharply for completely different reasons. Cattle producers, discouraged by poor pastures and poor price outlook, culled herds to increase slaughter about 8 percent. Farmers in Southern States moved to lessen dependence on soybeans by increasing swine. Poultry production growth was in response to high prices and growing export markets for chicken meat in the Persian Gulf countries.

The alltime agricultural export record of \$7.4 billion, approximating 61 percent of total 1977 export earnings, was vital to the economy but did not replace France (\$9 billion) as the number two world exporter. Incentives to export included periodic devaluations (14), tax credits, and subsidized credit for 20 to 40 percent of the export value for processed products such as meat, cocoa products, oils, oilseed meal, and tobacco. Exports of sugar more than doubled to a total value of \$452 million. Because of large carryover stocks, rice sales reached a new high of 408,000 tons. Volumes for soybean meal exceeded previous records, with some gains recorded for cotton. Coffee exports fell 35 percent but record high prices increased 1977 earnings, including soluble, by 22 percent to \$2.6 billion. High prices doubled cocoa and cocoa products to a record \$750 million, and soybeans and soybean products reached a new high of \$2.1 billion. Three minor exports - tobacco, beef, and orange juice - reached new highs, totalling \$505 million. Rapid growth was shown by chicken meat exports that were up 73 percent to 34,000 tons.

Imports were down because of stringent controls (100 percent, 360 day period deposit) and the large 1976 wheat harvest which reduced wheat needs. Brazil diversified sources with wheat imports from (1,000 tons): Canada, 905; United States, 837; Argentina, 855; South Africa, 161; and Uruguay, 70,000. Under its program to hold down food prices, the Government imported 69,000 tons of dry beans and 60,000 tons of powdered milk.

Because of high world prices, the Government also levied a tax on soybeans and soybean products, which varied from 4 to 12 percent from April through August, to finance a domestic subsidy for oil and meal. Under an agreement with the European Community (EC), a November tax of 3 percent, additional to an existing 5 percent, on soybean meal exports is to be doubled by November 1978. To keep coffee prices high, Brazil set a high export price of \$3.20 per pound in June 1977, as world demand fell off, expecting that importers would exhaust supplies and have to take the

higher prices. The policy halted exports until Brazil cut the export price to \$2.10 later in the year.

A 1978 forecast production of 1.32 million tons of coffee will ease the tight supply situation, and strong programs are expected to increase sugar and cocoa production. However, and expected soybean harvest of 12.8 million tons has been reduced sharply by drought, to estimates of 9.7 million to 10.2 million tons, and corn production is forecast to drop 3 million tons or more from the 1977 record. Export earnings will also be affected by lower prices for coffee, and will probably fall significantly below the 1977 high. Brazil's 1978 wheat deficit puts import needs up sharply to about 4 million tons, of which the United States may supply 2 million tons or more because Argentina has little to offer.

The Program for Development of the Cerrados (POLOCENTRO), which financed the opening up of 1.2 million hectares of Cerrado borderland with \$280 million through September 1977, will continue in 1978 toward its goal of 3.7 million hectares. (Samuel O. Ruff)

Chile

The Chilean economy continued to recover from depression and high inflation, as most sectors showed strong growth during 1977. Inflation was more than halved to 63 percent and unemployment was further reduced, although it still remains at a high 13 percent. The foreign sector improved again in spite of declining world copper prices and a 45-percent increase in imports. Huge debt service payments were made which came to 48 percent of total exports. Chile's favorable credit rating made it possible to borrow from private lending institutions to offset the current account deficit and provide a positive balance of payments.

The improved economic situation is attributed, partly, to strong gains in agriculture. Total production, estimated to be 18 percent above the reduced 1976 level, exceeded the 1971 record by about 12 percent. The increase in livestock output was limited. However, crop production rose 37 percent because of unusually favorable weather, stronger consumer demand, and trade policies which continued frequent currency devaluations and reduced duties to promote nontraditional exports. Agricultural exports rose to a record \$150 million and added to increased earnings from fisheries, forestry, and metals in helping to offset declining revenues from copper. Agricultural imports were held near the 1976 value of \$320 million because of lower wheat requirements which largely offset higher prices for coffee, oilseed, and dairy products.

Total grain production was up 41 percent in

spite of a 4-percent decline in area, largely wheat. Production of rice and feed grains were near-record, and the wheat crop was up 40 percent to the highest volume since 1971, partly because of increased fertilizer and pesticide usage. Fruit production jumped 32 percent led by gains in peaches, apricots, pears, and table grapes. Pulses increased 65 percent and root crops were well above the previous year as favorable international prices, especially for dry beans and onions, induced producers to increase area by an average 25 percent.

In contrast, oilseed production for 1977 increased only 4 percent in spite of favorable weather, as area was reduced. Processors limited contracts for seed and imported crude oil rather than pay high prices fixed by the Government. Cattle slaughter fell an estimated 9 percent following 2 year's of record slaughter, and good pastures encouraged retention. Those reductions were partly offset by a decline in cow slaughter and increased carcass weights. Pork and broiler production rose as beef consumption declined due to higher retail prices. Gains in milk output were limited and producers' protests over a lower government tarriff for dry milk in August-September resulted in later restoration to near the previous level.

Exports of fresh deciduous fruits and table grapes increased 25 percent to \$40 million in 1977. This added to sales of pulses and onions which rose 85 and 137 percent, respectively. The United States continued as the major Chilean market for table grapes and is important for pulses, deciduous fruits, and, in 1977, onions. Colombia and Venezuela continued large imports, particularly of fruits, although Chile faced higher tariffs after withdrawing from the Andean Common Market.

Food imports increased slightly in 1977 in spite of the rise in production, but total value was still substantially below the 1973 high of \$607 million. Because of the good harvest and larger than usual carryover stocks, wheat imports were reduced almost one-half to 600,000 tons. Favorable credit terms for wheat and price competitiveness helped the United States gain the largest share of the Chilean market. However, U.S. wheat shipments were down 47 percent from 1976 to 388,000 tons. This contributed to a \$45 million decline in total U.S. agricultural exports to Chile and offset increased exports of corn, vegetable oils, animal fats, and tobacco.

Crop production for 1978 has been significantly affected by Government policies. The wheat area declined as the government imposed price band, which established floor and ceilings considered too low by many producers. Areas for rapeseed and sugar beets both are estimated down more than one-half because of low Government support prices

and limited credit. Support programs were eliminated in 1977 for most remaining commodities including rice, corn, sunflowers, and potatoes. The government policy to reduce the general tariff level to 10 percent by June 1979 continued pressure of import competition for many agricultural producers, although its effect may be somewhat offset by the announced policy to devalue the peso faster than the inflation rate, forecast at 25 to 30 percent.

For crops as a whole, yields are expected to be lower in 1978 because of less favorable weather and the reduced sales and use of fertilizers resulting from the austerity program. Total grain production is estimated to be 20 percent below the high 1977 volume. Wheat output is currently placed at 862,000 tons, down 29 percent, with corn and rice production off 8 and 10 percent, respectively. The liberalized trade policy will likely stimulate further expansion in the export crops, including fruits, pulses, and onions. More favorable prices and continuing economic recovery are expected to promote livestock output, and poultry and pork will continue to effectively compete with beef. Current trade policies will likely dampen any significant production increases in dairy products.

Wheat imports are expected to increase to 1 million tons in 1978, with the U.S. share increasing significantly. Argentine wheat exports to Chile are not expected to exceed last year's 100,000 tons and may be less. The 1976 agreement to purchase 500,000 tons annually from Argentina between 1977-79 was not binding. Local agricultural processors are already looking to foreign markets for supplies, including raw sugar and vegetable oils, but a recent \$40 per ton duty on crude and refined oils will dampen demand. Increased demand for feed inputs are likely to come from imports, since domestic supplies of feed grains and oilseeds will be reduced. (*Myles Mielke*)

Colombia

Stimulated by rising agricultural trade earnings, the Colombian economy recovered strongly in 1977 after a 2-year slump. Recovery was led by gains in industry, construction, and the commerce sectors which contributed to a moderate reduction in the unemployment rate. Total exports rose 43 percent above the 1976 record and, in spite of larger imports, yearend foreign exchange reserves more than doubled the previous year to \$1.8 billion. Despite restrictive monetary and fiscal policies, inflation continued up moderately from the high 1976 rate of 25 percent. Due primarily to high world prices, coffee exports rose 73 percent to \$1.5 billion, comprising 64 percent of total exports, and cotton accounted for about 6 percent.

Agriculture suffered from continuing drought in early 1977 but conditions improved later in the year, and production was estimated to be 3.7 percent above the reduced 1976 level. Production of rice, the principal grain, continued to decline because of shifts to other crops and dry conditions which also reduced harvests of corn, wheat, and sorghum; total grains fell about 20 percent below the previous year. Sugar output declined again but attractive prices encouraged strong expansion in cotton and soybeans. Tobacco production rose sharply and a record coffee harvest reflected better production and some shift to improved varieties. Meat production also gained strongly in response to strong demand and milk production was up moderately from the reduced 1976 volume.

Because of production shortfalls from adverse weather in late 1976 and early 1977, restrictions were relaxed and imports encouraged to meet widespread food shortages in the wake of increased consumer demand. Port facilities and the internal transport network were overloaded, and losses and spoilage of imported foods were heavy. Imports of wheat, fats and oils, milk products, cocoa, and sugar were greatly increased to meet increased requirements. Increased coffee earnings provided the means for meeting the larger food import needs. Exports of cotton, meat, bananas, and cut flowers also increased. Lower production of sugar prevented any exports in 1977. Exports of live animals declined as did the exports of tobacco.

Prospects for increased agricultural and industrial growth for 1978 are good. Although cropland area is limited, acreage is expected to increase by about 4 percent, and production for 1978 is projected to rise by 10 percent or more, assuming good weather. Increased production is anticipated for all crops except cotton. However, no announcement to raise support price levels for 1978 has been forthcoming. With inflation continuing at a rate of 25 to 30 percent annually, producers are expected to be squeezed despite the Government's announced plans to ensure adequate production inputs and credit.

With favorable production prospects, agricultural imports are expected to be lower in 1978 and restricted to traditional deficit commodities; the liberalized food import policies initiated in early 1977 have been rescinded. At the beginning of 1978, the Government announced intentions to increase U.S. wheat imports by 25 percent to 500,000 tons. Usual imports of about 32,000 tons of tallow and about 70,000 tons of barley are anticipated. Other than about 10,000 tons of powdered milk, the country does not intend to import significant quantities of other food products, and exports of many nontraditional products are to be encouraged in 1978

by the upward revision of export tax rebates ranging from 5 to 12 percent. (Frank D. Barlow)

Ecuador

The momentum of Ecuador's growth trend, generated by the impact of petroleum revenue since 1973, continued in 1977 with a GDP growth rate of 7.4 percent. This growth trend resulted in increased demand which boosted the inflation rate to 12.3 percent. Trade earnings from petroleum actually declined, but those of agricultural exports exceeded petroleum for the first time since 1973 and amply made-up for the drop. Terms of trade were improved by high prices for cocoa, coffee, and petroleum but, because of strong demand, imports exceeded exports by \$80 million. Net capital inflows, however, produced an increase of 33 percent in foreign exchange reserves to a record \$546 million.

Increased demand was felt in commerce, construction, and the service industries and Government incentives caused vigorous expansion in manufacturing. Agricultural production, however, slowed because of severe drought and a dryup of credit and deficits persisted in wheat, corn, milk and vegetable oil. Agricultural policies were less effective because credit available from the National Development Bank was limited, price support policies which stimulated earlier overproduction of rice and cotton had proved costly. The national marketing agency (ENAC) moved to improve the system and reduce market fluctuations by contracting for 65,000 tons of storage. Ecuador's credit and support policies will again be effective in 1978, as more funds are now available.

Coastal production of rice, the major grain, dropped 19 percent because farmers reduced area for lack of credit and drought cut yields. Wheat production continued a declining trend, down 13 percent in spite of a support price of \$220 per ton. Corn production recovered to self-sufficiency, but imports of 10,000 to 20,000 tons were authorized to meet 1976 shortages. Dry weather in the Sierra reduced the barley crop by 38 percent and cut potato production 8 percent. Increases in palm kernel and soybean production raised edible oil production to 43,000 tons, but a consumption increase to 100,700 tons left a big import gap.

Tropical products, grown on the coastal plain, suffered less from drought and provided exports of record value, although not quantity. Cocoa production was up 8 percent, but coffee production for 1977/78 dropped 7 percent. However, exporters had large carryover stocks of coffee from the previous year. An expected increase in sugar production faded and production was reduced by strikes that

began in October. Banana harvesting dropped because of the continued decline in export demand. In spite of poor pastures, beef and fluid milk production was up slightly reflecting the cattle repopulation program and a general increase in pasture area.

Tropical products had a glittering export record in 1977, because of high prices for cocoa and coffee. The new number one export, cocoa and cocoa products, earned \$244 million. The cocoa industry diverted a larger share of beans to domestic processing into products for export. Coffee exports, taxed at 32 percent, dropped to \$160 million, as coffee prices declined after June. Banana exports declined in value by \$1 million to \$136 million, as Ecuador searched, unsuccessfully, for new markets in Eastern Europe, and 1977 sugar exports were estimated at 50,000 tons. Export outlook for 1978 is that volumes of cocoa and coffee will be about the same, but weakening world markets will cut prices. Practically no sugar will be exported.

Ecuador's imports in 1977 included (1,000 tons): wheat, 250; corn, 20; malting barley, oats, soybean oil, 25 each; and dry milk, 3.3. The United States supplied all the wheat and soybean oil in 1977, but will face competition from Canada for the 1978 wheat market of 250,000 to 260,000 tons. (Samuel O. Ruff)

Guyana

Economic activity declined again in 1977, and real GDP was down an estimated 5 percent after the poor 1976 performance which was attributed to a slack world demand for bauxite and alumina, the 40 percent drop in rice production, and the low world price for sugar. Although agricultural production recovered, rising nearly 30 percent above the low 1976 level, the output of bauxite and alumina was still off and export earnings were depressed. Consequently, the overall balance of payments continued to be the major economic problem facing the country in 1977.

Since 1976, the serious balance of payments deficits has caused the Government to impose severe restrictions on imports of food and non-essential commodities. Priority has been given to imports essential to development programs. Although some success has been obtained in the diversification of food crop production, there are a number of important agricultural commodities that the country must continue to import such as wheat, feed grains, vegetable oils, and protein meals. Under the curtailed import program, U.S. agricultural exports declined from \$19 million in 1976 to \$11 million in 1977.

The inflow of capital from external sources is

expected to continue in 1978, but balance of payments deficits are not likely to be eliminated. The Government is placing priorities on increasing the production of bauxite, alumina, rice, and sugar, as well as nontraditional exports, and plans to cut imports even further. Despite ambitious plans to increase agricultural production in 1978, the final performance will be highly dependent upon the weather and the avoidance of labor conflicts.

The Government hopes to bring about a better balance between production and consumption, increase efficiency and productivity in the state enterprises, expand manpower training programs, and increase inflows of multilateral and bilateral economic assistance including food aid under the U.S. Public Law-480. A recently announced Four-Year Recovery Plan embodies an activist strategy which places emphasis on diversification of agricultural production for both domestic consumption and for export. The Government hopes that this strategy will help restore equilibrium in the balance of payments over the 4-year period. (Frank D. Barlow)

Paraguay

Two large hydroelectric projects and a very good crop year kept the Paraguayan economy growing at a strong pace during 1977; industrial growth was led by the agro-industry and construction sectors. A record \$100 million increase in exports was mostly offset by a 37-percent rise in imports. Investments in the electric projects and public borrowing continued to build foreign reserves. Increased economic activity intensified inflation which more than doubled the low 1976 rate of 4.4 percent.

Crop expansion was led by the oilseeds whose production rose 28 percent during 1977, in spite of a large decline in tung nuts. Soybean plantings showed large gains after moderate growth during the previous 2 years, and production rose 32 percent above the 1976 record. Bean exports were up in 1977, but farmers may have held back hoping for higher prices. Cotton seed production jumped 111 percent, as the cotton area almost doubled to a record 200,000 hectares in response to rising world cotton prices. The previous year's frost damage to tung trees lowered nut production by about 35 percent.

Official estimates indicate a recovery in 1977 wheat production, but roughly two-thirds of requirements are still imported. Corn area reached a new record, but expansion slowed to only 5 percent versus a 12 percent average the previous two seasons. The rice harvest also was a record, as area increased 36 percent mainly on newly cleared

lands in the eastern region near the Brazilian border. Sugarcane production rebounded after frost damage to the 1975 crop. Favorable prices induced producers to increase area planted to tobacco by 18 percent, about the same rate as growth in production. The 1975 frost also affected coffee trees and production continues to reflect this damage.

Increased domestic demand accounted for most of the record beef production in 1977; rising incomes among agricultural producers and workers at the hydroelectric projects were largely responsible for the increase. Although the export slaughter quota was set at 250,000 head, only 145,000 were used for export which is up one-third from last year's low level, but substantially below levels of the early 1970's. Government policy does not appear to be favoring beef exports, and larger crop exports have reduced the need to stimulate livestock trade.

Most of the rise in 1977 exports were from agriculture; and the three major categories that doubled in value included oilseeds, cotton, and tung oil. Since 1976, earnings from oilseeds (mostly soybeans) and cotton have exceeded meat exports which increased only marginally during 1977. Because of unregistered movement between Paraguay and Brazil, and in some cases, Argentina, export figures do not always relect actual trade. This is especially true for soybeans, rice, and corn. Unregistered imports of wheat and cattle have also been common.

Continued strong economic activity and favorable weather are expected to contribute to improved agricultural production in 1978. Beef production, in particular, should benefit from higher incomes, and domestic crops, such as corn and rice which are forecast to improve. Low production costs and readily available land are apparently behind the estimated area increase of almost 15 percent in soybeans; production could approach 500,000 tons, and export expand by 100,000 tons or more.

Based on Government seed distribution estimates, cotton area could expand by 25 percent or more in response to last year's favorable conditions. The only major crop which could face a decline is tobacco. Limited world demand for black tobacco, which is Paraguay's principal type, and the possibility of land being shifted to cotton are the major reasons. There is some Government action to induce producers to change to burley production but this is a long-term program. (Myles Mielke)

Peru

The battered Peruvian economy took a turn for the worse in 1977; real GDP fell slightly, the first decline in recent times, and the financial crisis deepened. Austerity measures, initiated in 1976, somewhat moderated the high rate of inflation. Imports fell slightly from the reduced 1976 value of \$2.1 billion and exports increased 30 perceit to about \$1.8 billion, as the sol was devalued from 70 to 130 per U.S. dollar. However, the reduced but, still large, foreign trade and payments deficits added to heavy indebtedness subject to 1978 repayment. The international lending agencies have advised more strenous austerity measures, as a condition for further loans, and prospects for significant economic improvement may be limited in 1978.

During 1977, a falloff in consumption growth was reflected in a 2 percent decline in manufacturing, the major economic sector, which added to sharp declines in fishery output and construction. The impact of expansion and improvement in mining, particularly copper, resulted in a sharp increase in production. Agricultural output was up slightly although still below peaks reached in the early seventies. Fishmeal exports continued strong in early 1977 but, with later declines, are estimated to be down significantly from high 1976 volumes. The brighter 1977 trade situation resulted from strong gains in earning of copper, other minerals, and agricultural products; these trade trends will probably continue in 1978.

Peru's ambitious agricultural policies had minimal effect in 1977, but may be more effective in 1978. The land reform program, which had expropriated 9.2 million hectares by November 1977, expects to achieve its final goal of 9.8 million hectares in 1978. A 65-percent increase in agricultural credit for 1977 (at 16 percent interest), was largely wiped out by inflation. The Government channeled 65 percent of it to associative enterprises. It also kept price controls on basic foods and provided subsidies for bread, dairy products, and soybean oil to prevent further price rises. Import authorizations were tightened for red meat, wheat, feed grains, and dairy products. Deficits in these commodities will still require imports in 1978.

In 1977, the decline in crop production was notable in sugar, rice, potatoes, and tobacco. Shortages of potatoes, sugar, vegetable oil, and canned milk occurred at the retail level. A long, dry spell at the end of 1976 that delayed planting was the principal factor and a shortage of irrigation water reduced rice production. The potato shortage persisted until the main harvest, which was late in the year. Production of corn and sorghum was up, but the small wheat harvest left a deficit of 768,000 tons to be filled by imports.

The Government managed the three tropical products supplies so as to increase exports. Although sugar production was down 5 percent, it

provided a 46-percent increase in export volume because the Government controlled consumption. The 5-percent rise in coffee production represented yields increases in response to higher prices.

Production of edible oils and meals made minimal gains because the low anchovy catch limited oil production to 100,000 tons and fishmeal to 447,000 tons, with only small gains in cotton seed. Decreased acreage caused a drop in tobacco production, ensuring continuation of imports of U.S. tobacco. Livestock production gains in 1977 were minimal because drought hit Sierra pastures, but abundant rains in 1978 now favor them. Restrictions on meat imports led consumers to shift from imported red meat to poultry, offals, guinea pigs, rabbits, and alpacas.

The production outlook for 1978 is for substantial increases in corn, sorghum, rice, and cotton. Peru will be self-sufficient in rice and will cut its needs for imports of feed grains. Increased plantings of long staple cotton justify a 9-percent increase in cotton. Better pastures and a price rise should stimulate a 10,000 ton increase in milk production.

An agricultural trade balance of \$140 million was one of the bright spots in the economy. Coffee exports were outstanding, with a volume of 45,000 tons and earnings of almost \$200 million out of a total of \$380 million for all agriculture. Cotton exports, which were valued at \$50 million for 32,300 tons in 1977, will increase in 1978. Sugar exports will be up 20 percent to 400,000 tons.

The value of agricultural imports was down 23 percent to \$249 million. The suppliers of 768,000 tons of wheat were the United States, Argentina, and Canada. The United States has approved \$57 million in CCC credit for 1978 deliveries of 260,000 tons of wheat, 262,000 tons of corn, and 19,700 tons of soy oil. Belt tightening is characteristic of all import plans for 1978, including wheat authorized at 760,000 tons. (Samuel O. Ruff)

Uruguay

After 2 years of moderate growth, the Uruguayan economy slowed in 1977. Some industries showed positive growth signs but agricultural production was down due to poor weather and Government policies. Austerity measures failed to curtail inflation which approached the 1975 level of 67 percent. A continuing decline in real wages further reduced consumption and dampened growth of the domestic industries. However, exports continued substantial increases, fueled by nontraditional commodities, and yearend foreign exchange reserves rose sharply for the second year.

Government controlled prices, and higher costs

of largely imported inputs, tended to limit production gains of 1976/77 crops. Total grain output of 1.11 million tons was slightly below the previous season. Wheat production was encouraged in 1976, at the expense of other winter grains, in order to maintain self-sufficiency and allow small exports. Reduced area and excessive rains dashed earlier expectations for 1977 corn, and the edible oilseed crop was also reduced because of weather. After exporting soybeans for the first time in 1976, 13,000 tons of crude oil were imported from Brazil in 1977 to makeup for the oilseed shortfall.

Because of weather conditions, the 1977 sugar beet output decreased 30 percent, but production from the later cane harvest jumped 84 percent to a record 600,000 tons. An over supply of sugar now faces the country with little prospect of export, because of high producer prices set by the Government. At current low world prices exports would require large subsidies.

Livestock sector policy was the most troublesome during 1977. After encouraging beef exports early in the year, the Government banned exports and then, in midyear, decreed one unit of beef to be slaughtered for domestic consumption for each two units exported. However, producers considered Government prices too low and withheld marketings. Both domestic and export sales declined sharply after midyear until November when prices were raised for fully mature steers. As a result, beef exports declined 34 percent from a 1976 record of 195,000 tons and domestic consumption was down by 12 percent.

For the third year in a row, nontraditional products accounted for half of the total agricultural export value. The Government had been promoting those exports which are largely based on raw agricultural and fishery products. Important agricultural based exports include leather goods, fruits, grains, wool textiles, and meat products other than beef. Major markets include South America, Western Europe, the United States, and North Africa. U.S. exports of cattle hides to Uruguay jumped during 1977 which, in turn, were processed and reexported, largely to the U.S.

Prospects for the 1977/78 crops are not encouraging, as heavy rains delayed plantings of both winter and summer grains. Area planted to wheat is estimated down 30 to 35 percent; rain during harvest and a fungus attack could push production down more than 60 percent below last year. It is certain that wheat will be imported in 1978, and totals could range from 200-300,000 tons. Grain sorghum production is being discouraged because of a large carryover, but corn exports are expected to increase because of expanded area and the rain which favored the crop. Rice production should continue to increase in response to preferential

Government treatment. Oilseeds could increase substantially because of larger area and recovery from last year's low yields. Soybean production could double, but would still be a minor oilseed crop for Uruguay.

The beef scarcity disappeared after the November 1977 price rise which also included a warning that the Government would tax mature cattle held by producers and withhold production credits. Overstocked pastures may increase pressure to sell cattle in spite of controlled trade. These factors, plus the requirement to supply the domestic market, may raise consumption to normal levels in 1978. Increased export may be encouraged by a tentative 25,000 ton agreement with Brazil and prospects for a large sale to Egypt. (Myles Mielke)

Venezuela

Venezuela continued its strong economic expansion in 1977, with real GDP rising about 7 percent. Petroleum production was down by over 1 percent, but prices were higher; it is the major source of tax revenue and contributes approximately 95 percent to foreign exchange earnings. Output of other extractive industries (iron, coal, and aluminum) was down slightly, but manufacturing, power, construction, and commerce forged ahead. Agriculture added to growth, as output rose 11 percent above the disastrous 1976 performance to exceed the 1975 record by about 3 percent.

The economic program, set forth in the fifth Five Year-Plan for 1976-80, emphasizes public investment in infrastructure and heavy industry. The Government supports high international oil prices to maximize foreign exchange earnings needed to finance the country's ambitious development plan. The heavy infusion of money into the economy increased in 1977; and because of concern with inflation, policies of credit restraints, reduced Government spending, higher bank reserve requirements, and consumer price controls were pursued to reduce inflationary pressures. The 1977 rate of inflation was estimated at about 10 percent compared with 8 percent in 1976. Nevertheless, the Government plans heavy foreign borrowing through 1980 to push forward its industrial development program.

The agricultural area continued to expand in 1977, but recovery of production was attributed primarily to improved credit and supplies of seed and fertilizer, and to unusually favorable weather during the latter part of the year when most crops are harvested. Preliminary data indicates that production increased for more than 20 commodities including grains, pulses, root crops, cotton, oil-seeds, bananas and plantains, fruits and vegeta-

bles, and meats. Some crop gains were extraordinary, compared with the abnormally low output in 1976 including (percent): rice 80; corn, 50; sorghum, 162; sesame seed, 29; pulses, 23; and seed cotton, 41. However, production of coffee, sugar, and milk was lower, and beef and pork output was up only moderately by 5 and 8 percent, respectively. Increases were still not enough to overtake the rapid increases in demand and the larger output pointed up widespread deficiencies in marketing, transportation, and storage.

Despite the general improvement in 1977 production, the country suffered from serious food shortages throughout the year triggered by an 8-percent shortfall in 1976 agricultural production, and the continued acceleration in consumer demand. Critical food problems, in early 1977, also indicated the failure of past food policies to achieve balance among producer incentives (price support levels, input subsidies) on the one hand, and consumer price and economic stabilization goals (ceiling prices, price controls, and import restrictions) on the other. To meet the emergency, controls were rescinded on the imports of poultry meat, eggs, dairy products, beef, beans, rice, and potatoes.

Total agricultural imports increased substantially to meet severe shortages in consumer-ready food products. The value of U.S. exports to Venezuela were near-record, up 11 percent in spite of a 25-percent decline in grains, resulting from lower prices and a 59 percent drop in grain sorghum shipments. U.S. export of livestock and poultry products more than tripled 1976 values; dairy products increased 2.5 times; fruits almost doubled; vegetable products rose 42 percent, and other food preparations by 35 percent. Increased food imports were hampered by port congestion and inadequate

storage; and the Government has directed the Agricultural Marketing Corporation (AMC), the Petrolchemicals Institute, and the Venezuelan Shipping Company to plan and coordinate import arrivals and to expand handling facilities.

Strong economic growth is expected to continue into 1978, although continued payments deficit and inflation is anticipated because of the rise in government spending. The Government intends to pursue its vigorous policies to expand agriculture through: liberal credit, encouragement of research, education, mechanization, and subsidies for inputs and expansion of irrigation. Adoption of improved technology is expected to continue expansion in commercial agriculture but a significant breakthrough will be constrained by the limited area of good farm land and the vagarieties of weather. Expansion of the traditional subsistence food production is not bright, as small owners, squatters, and laborers are moving into other activities in the urban centers.

Venezuela has been the largest cash customer in South America for U.S. agricultural products. A close analysis of Venezuelan economic growth and agricultural potentials indicates a strong possibility that the Venezuelan market will grow at a faster rate in the years ahead. In the past, the principal imports were bulk commodities such as wheat, feed grains, oilseeds and oilseed products, and the need for these products is expected to increase faster than population. The need for larger imports of meats, eggs, dairy, fruits, vegetables, and processed food products is likely to continue. The United States is in the strongest position to supply these food items at prices well below the costs of produce genously. (Frank D. Barlow)

Table 1--Western Hemisphere: Population, gross domestic product, and gold and foreign exchange holdings, by country, 1976-77 $\underline{1}/$

Country		Population		Gross	domestic p	roquer	:: Gold ::	and foreign e holdings 2/	
	1976	1977 :	Change	:: 1975 <u>3</u> /	1976 4/	: 1977 <u>4</u> /	1976	: 1977 :	Change
:	<u>Tho</u>	usand	Percent	Mil. dol.	<u>Per</u>	cent	Mil	. dol	Percen
Canada:	23,140	23,450	1.3	164,952	4.8	2.4	5,843	4,608	-21.1
! !dexico!	62,330	64,590	3.6	79,016	2.1	2.8	1,253	1,968	57.1
Barbados:	231	231	0.0	347	n.a.	n.a.	28	37	32.1
Cuba::	9,470	9,610	1.5	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Oominican Republic:	4,920	5,040	2.4	2,996	6.3	3.5	127	184	44.9
laiti:	5,160	5,270	2.1	766	5.0	2.5	28	<u>5</u> /31	10.7
amaica:		2,080	1.0	2,417	-6.3	-4.0	32	48	50.0
rinidad and Tobago:		1,090	0.5	2,150	4.8	5.0	1,014	1,483	46.2
ther Caribbean:		1,808	2.0	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Caribbean:		25,129	1.8	8,676	2.1	1.8	7/1,229	1,783	45.1
: : osta Rica	2,010	2,050	2.0	1,926	4.8	6.0	98	193	96.9
1 Salvador:	4,260	4,390	3.0	1,514	6.0	5.5	205	232	13.2
uatemala:	6,256	6,435	2.9	3,014	7.6	7.5	511	690	35.0
onduras:	3,320	3,430	3.3	877	6.7	8.5	131	180	37.4
icaragua:		2,330	2.6	1,579	6.5	5.5	147	149	1.4
anama:		1,763	2.6	1,604	0.6	0.0	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
ther Central America:		145	2.1	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Central America:		20,543	2.8	10,515	5.6	5.6	7/1,092	1,444	32.2
: :rgentina::	25,710	26,040	1.3	40,366	-2.9	4.4	1,608	3,800	136.3
olivia:		5,950	2.8	2,154	6.5	5.0	168	220	31.0
razil::		112,210	2.8	120,901	9.2	5.0	6,541	7,205	10.2
hile::		10,960	1.8	7,272	4.0	8.5	460	484	5.2
olombia:		25,200	2.3	13,268	5.8	6.5	1,158	1,822	57.2
cuador:		7,130	2.9	4,294	7.0	7.4	515	671	30.3
uyana:		822	2.2	491	-13.0	-5.0	27	23	-14.8
araguay:		2,790	2.6	1,255	7.5	8.2	158	268	69.6
eru:		16,420	3.0	13,276	3.4	-0.1	330	6/311	-5.8
		434	2.1				116	100	-13.8
urinam:			0.4	495	n.a.	n.a.	315		31.1
ruguay:		2,790		3,426	2.8	2.5		6/413	
enezuela:		13,490	3.1	28,954	7.0	8.0	8,578	8,214	-4.2
ther South America: South America		67 224,303	3.1 2.5	n.a. 236,152	n.a. 6.0	n.a. 5.2	n.a. 19,974	n.a. 23,731	n.a. 18.8
atin America	325,858	334,565	2.7	334,359	4.9	4.6	<u>7</u> /23,548	28,678	21.8
: Western Hemisphere:	348,998	358,015	2.6	499,311	4.9	3.9	7/29,391	33,286	13.2

n.a. = not available.

Source: International Monetary Fund; U.S. Agency For International Development; other U.S. Government agencies.

¹/ Regional totals include only those countries for which data are shown, ending December unless otherwise noted.

^{2/} Total of gold, foreign exchange holdings, and reserve position in the International Monetary Fund.
3/ Value at current market prices converted to U.S. dollars, using the average end-of-quarter free or principal import rates of exchange.

Estimates of real growth.
Position at end of first quarter.

Position at end of November.

Excludes Cuba and Panama.

Table 2--Western Hemisphere: Indices of total and per capita agricultural and food production by countries and regions, 1975-77 $\underline{1}/$

(1961-65 = 100)

:			То	tal			:		Per c	apita		
Country	A	gricultuı	ral	:	Food		: Ag	ricultur	al	:	Food	
:	1975	: 1976	: 1977	1975	: 1976	: 1977	1975	1976	: 1977	1975	: 1976	: 1977
Canada	127	139	140	128	142	142	105	113	113	106	116	114
Mexico	151	148	158	169	165	173	100	94	97	112	105	106
Dominican Republic	131	150	140	133	150	145	94	105	95	95	105	99
Haiti:	97	101	97	104	102	103	78	79	74	83	80	79
Jamaica:		87	81	84	86	82	69	71	66	69	71	66
Trinidad and Tobago:		91	90	78	93	91	63	73	72	63	75	72
Caribbean	112	125	117	114	124	121	87	95	88	89	95	91
Costa Rica	176	175	172	198	196	187	124	121	116	139	135	126
El Salvador:	134	144	142	172	164	172	89	93	89	115	106	108
Guatemala:	168	183	177	190	199	199	119	127	119	135	138	134
Honduras:	118	135	153	109	131	138	78	87	9.5	72	83	85
Nicaragua:	150	154	170	161	159	171	107	107	115	115	110	116
Panama:		147	158	154	149	160	107	102	106	108	103	107
:												
Central America:	150	159	163	162	167	171	104	107	107	113	113	112
: Argentina	123	133	134	127	138	137	105	112	111	108	116	114
Bolivia:		159	145	144	154	139	109	111	99	104	103	95
Brazil:		157	167	167	185	190	109	110	114	119	129	129
Chile:	129	122	144	132	124	147	100	93	108	103	95	110
Colombia:	149	147	153	160	158	160	108	104	106	116	112	111
Ecuador:	128	134	128	126	130	127	91	92	86	89	90	85
Guyana:		101	132	112	101	132	85	75	96	85	75	97
Paraguay:		156	190	130	144	167	100	109	130	93	101	114
Peru:		101	102	113	116	116	70	69	67	79	79	7.7
Uruguay:	103	112	94	114	126	102	98	106	89	108	120	96
Venezuela:		162	179	175	167	187	117	107	115	119	110	120
South America		144	150	148	158	161	104	104	106	109	114	113
:					1,50	101	104	104	100	107	114	113
Latin America <u>2</u> /:	142	145	151	151	158	163	103	102	104	109	111	112
Latin America 3/:	142	146	152	152	159	163	103	103	104	110	112	112

 ^{1/} Revised data for 1975 and 1976; preliminary for 1977.
 2/ Production for 22 countries shown.
 3/ Excludes Guyana, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago.

Source: Economics, Statistics, and Cooperatives Service, <u>Indices of Agricultural Production of the Western Hemisphere</u>, unpublished.

Table 3 --Western Hemisphere: Fertilizer consumption in nutrient equivalent, average 1961-65, annual 1974-75

	:	N		:	P205		:	K ₂ 0		:	Total	
Country	1961-65	1974	1975	1961-65	1974	1975	1961-65	1974	1975	:1961-65:	1974	: 1975 :
	:					1.00	0 tons					
	:											
Canada	: 152	531	562	252	502	526	119	207	215	523	1,240	1,303
Mexico	: 199	654	833	53	223	220	8	45	48	260	922	1,101
Barbados		2	1	1/	1/	1/	3	5	4	7	7	5
Cuba		139	156	60	61	62	45	102	115	169	302	333
Dominican Republic .		47	41	1	25	23	2	26	20	11	98	84
Jamaica		12	9	2	7	4	6	9	8	16	28	21
Trinidad & Tobago		5	4	1	1/	1/	3	3	3	7	8	7
Other Caribbean		12	12	4	8	8	10	16	16	19	36	36
Caribbean	92	217	223	68	101	97	69	161	166	229	479	486
Belize		1	1	1/	1	1	1/	1	1/	1/	3	2
Costa Rica		34	34	7	12	15	_5	27	20	26	73	69
El Salvador		62	65	7	28	20	7	8	9	35	98	94
Guatemala		42	30	5	14	15	2	14	5	16	70	50
Honduras	: 7	10	11	1/	2	4	1/	7	5	7	19	20
Nicaragua		22	16	2	10	2	1	3	1/	11	35	18
Panama		13	13		6	5		8	7	9	27	25
Central America	: 68	184	170	21	73	62	15	68	46	104	325	278
Argentina	: 16	42	28	5	24	22	3	5	5	24	71	55
Bolivia	: 1/	4	2	1/	2	2	1/	1/	1/	1/	6	4
Brazil		95	410	86	806	915	80	521	588	224	1,722	1,913
Chile	: 25	52	39	57	91	47	13	15	8	95	158	94
Colombia		127	131	48	86	46	34	52	39	122	265	216
Ecuador	: 6	22	20	5	11	13	4	8	6	15	41	39
Guyana		11	8	2	2	3	2	2	1/	9	15	11
Paraguay	: 1/	1	1/	1	1	1	1/	1/	1/	1	2	1
Peru	: 64	114	82	23	16	12	7	12	_2	94	142	96
Surinam		4	2	1/	1	1/	1/	1	1/	1	6	2
Uruguay		10	11	19	18	28	-4	7	_4	31	35	43
Venezuela	: 13	58	65	6	40	41	6	30	34	25	128	140
South America	236	840	798	252	1,098	1,130	153	653	686	641	2,591	2,614
Latin America	595	1,895	2,024	394	1,495	1,509	245	927	946	1,234	4,317	4,479

^{1/} Less than 500 tons.

Source: Food and Agriculture Organization, Annual Fertilizer Review, 1976.

Table 4--Area and production of selected agricultural products by principal Western Hemisphere countries or regions, annual 1975-77 $\underline{1}/$

		Area <u>2</u> /	:	:	Production	
Commodity by country	1975	1976	1977 <u>3</u> /		: 1976 :	: 1977 <u>3</u> /
:-		1 000 hostaras			- 1,000 tons -	
		- 1,000 hectares			- 1,000 tons -	
Theat: :						
Canada:	9,479	11,252	10,111	17,078	23,581	19,651
Mexico	804	885	710	2,900	3,350	2,350
Central America	47	49	45	41	44	44
Argentina:	5,270	6,428	3,973	8,570	11,000	5,200
Brazil:	3,111	3,624	2,800	1,555	3,120	2,000
Chile:	686	698	628	900	866	1,219
Uruguay:	456	508	370	470	505	300
Other South America:	330	332	324	316	339	312
Total Latin America:	10,704	12,524	8,850	14,752	19,224	11,425
:						
ice, rough: :	214	155	190	720	330	380
	200	190	160	420	390	310
Cuba	146	171	166	376	456	379
Panama	115	97	115	185	145	185
Other Central America		158	148	400		321
	194	6,000			315 8,500	8,000
Brazil	5,250 372		5,400 325	7,000 1,614		
Colombia:		366 97	136		1,560	1,297
Guyana:	116		125	297	173	366
Peru:	118	129		473	570	558
Uruguay:	47	52	57	188	216	228
Other South America	503	482	524	1,469	1,309	1,490
Total Latin America	7,275	7,897	7,346	13,142	13,964	13,514
orn:						
Canada:	635	709	730	3,645	3,770	4,383
Mexico	7,900	7,870	7,920	9,300	9,600	9,700
Caribbean:	410	409	401	373	333	393
Guatemala:	874	675	733	881	842	880
Honduras	321	330	412	3 34	304	377
Other Central America:	671	600	614	845	702	745
Argentina:	3,070	2,766	2,683	7,700	5,855	8,800
Brazil:	10,269	11,090	10,700	16,000	17,300	18,000
Chile:	92	96	116	329	248	355
Colombia:	646	648	531	879	884	737
Peru:	370	400	410	625	670	700
Venezuela:	506	489	551	653	532	800
Other South America:	741	777	784	883	1,005	909
Total Latin America	25,870	26,150	25,855	38,802	38,275	42,396
rain Sorghum:						
Mexico	1,170	1,170	1,190	3,400	3,200	3,350
Caribbean	231	231	234	244	247	250
Central America	340	341	334	386	338	388
Argentina	1,938	1,834	2,230	4,830	5,060	6,200
Colombia:	181	174	155	456	428	325
Uruguay	54	107	85	77	118	162
Other South America	290	304	378	591	757	864
Total Latin America	4,204	4,161	4,606	9,984	10,148	11,539
:	.,	1,7272	1,000	.,	,	,
eans, dry: :						
Canada	66	61	65	90	83	40
Mexico	1,910	1,830	1, 65	1,340	1,080	1,200
Caribbean:	126	124	122	145	151	129
Central America	381	423	417	248	237	247
Brazil	4,136	4,047	3,800	2,271	1,842	2,100
Chile	68	82	97	74	70	112
Peru	50	50	51	36	36	38
Venezuela	64	65	69	25	31	38
Other South America	384	395	411	277	350	369
	7,119	7,016	6,832	4,416	3,797	4,233
Total Latin America:	/ a L L D					

See foot notes at end of table

Continued--

Table 4--Area and production of selected agricultural products by principal Western Hemisphere countries or regions, annual 1975-77 $\underline{1}/--$ Continued

Commodity by country :		Area 2/	<u> </u>	: 	Production	
:		: 1976 :	1977 <u>3</u> /	: 1975 :	1976	1977 <u>3</u>
:		1,000 hectares			- 1,000 tons -	
: weet potatoes and yams:						
Mexico	10	10	10	134	130	130
Caribbean	106	110	102	488	467	460
Central America				1	1	1
Argentina	41	38	36	418	348	327
Brazil:	183	185	184	2,150	2,250	2,200
Paraguay:	13	14	14	105	114	115
Peru:	14	15	15	150	155	160
Other South America:	54	56	56	423	419	408
Total Latin America	421	428	417	3,869	3,884	3,801
: otatoes:						
Canada	105	105	111	2,195	2,340	2,488
:						
Mexico:	40	56	52	643	687	653
Caribbean:	14	15	13	160	186	143
Central America	11	10	10	83	87	93
Argentina	111	108	111	1,349	1,528	1,769
Bolivia	128 197	128 202	126 194	834	824	1 806
Chile	72	68	194 86	1,669 738	1,791 539	1,896 928
Colombia	90	125	130	1,120	1,516	1,609
Peru	251	256	250	1,640	1,670	1,600
Other South America	80	82	80	775	855	817
Total Latin America	994	1,050	1,052	9,011	9,683	10,187
:		_,	-,	-,	-,	
otton: :						
Mexico:	234	235	385	340	224	350
Caribbean:	6	6	6	1	1	1
Guatemala:	111	84	106	95	183	192
Nicaragua	179	144	199	121	111	119
Other Central America:	80	93	108	63	77	87
Argentina:	505	414	518	172	133	160
Brazil:	2,025	1,815	1,990	515	384	566
Colombia:	251	342	421	121	148	176
Peru:	146	104	113	73	57	57
Other South America	266	209	329	87	77	129
Total Latin America	3,803	3,446	4,175	1,588	1,395	1,837
eanuts:						
Mexico	40	43	43	64	49	5.5
Caribbean	84	96	83	68	58	58
Argentina	357	309	363	375	338	600
Brazil	245	282	229	335	514	324
Other South America:	61	58	63	58	60	67
Total Latin America	787	788	781	900	1,019	1,104
:					, ,	
oybeans: :						
Canada	158	153	202	367	250	517
Mexico	355	157	21.0	6.25	200	5.00
Mexico	356	434	210	625	280 695	500
Brazil	5,824	6,290	660 6,945	485 9,892	10,800	1,400 12,000
Colombia	88	38	57	168	75	103
Other South America	175	206	260	256	327	410
Total Latin America:	6,798	7,125	8,132	11,426	12,177	14,413
:	- ,	,,=-5	,	11,710	12,17	2.,
obacco:						
Canada	42	37	42	106	82	103
Y	4 -					
Mexico	37	39	38	52	58	57
Cuba:	69	71	68	42	52	45
Other Caribbean	24	23	24	27	39	32
Central America	12	14	13	17	17	17
Argentina:	88	79	73	97	95	80
Brazil	252	256	266	286	276	280
Colombia	31	29	35	48	54	64
Total Latin America	45 558	52 563	57 574	64 633	71 662	80 655

Time reference is calendar year to include crops harvested mainly in year shown. Latin American totals are for the 23 Latin American countries, including Cuba. Seeded area for Canada; harvested area for other countries insofar as possible.

^{2/} Seeded area 3/ Preliminary.

Sources: Economics, Statistics, and Cooperatives Service; Foreign Agricultural Service; Food and Agricultural Organization, Production Yearbook of Agriculture; and Cuban Yearbook.

Table 5--Western Hemisphere: Production of selected agricultural products by principal countries or regions, 1975-77 1/

:		Production	ı	::	•		Productio	n
Commodity by country	1975	: 1976 :	: 1977 <u>2</u> /	-		1975	1976	: 1977 2
:		- 1,000 tons		::			- 1,000 ton	s
:		_,000	-	::	:			_
assava (yuca): :					Cocoa beans: :			
Caribbean:	592	600	611	::		37	31	34
Central America:	102	102	111	::		33	34	34
Brazil:	25,812	26,446	26,719	::		15	15	15
Colombia:	1,350	1,927	2,113	::		10	11	11
Paraguay:	1,428	1,573	1,500	::		257	249	246
Other South America:	1,975	1,881	1,940	::		7.5	64	69
Total Latin America:	31,259	32,529	32,994	::		19	17	17
:				::		29	31	32
igar, centrifugal, (raw :				::		475	452	458
value):	0.3	1/1	165	::				
Canada:	93	141	165		Wool, shorn:	2	3	
:	2 606	2 (00	2 (07	::		3	3]
Mexico:	2,696	2,698	2,697	::		8	8	,
Cuba:	6,427	6,151	5,800	::				,
Dominican Republic:	1,136	1,249	1,252	1:		155	160	167
Other Caribbean:	808	867	782	::		35	33 62	29
Central America:	1,320	1,566	1,653	::	. 0	61 39		
Argentina	1,261	1,460 7,500	1,500	::		298	41 304	300
Brazil:	6,200	882	8,600 870			290	304	300
Colombia:	965 956	920	960	::	Beef and veal:			
Peru:	495	414	400	::		1,049	1,139	1,14
Venezuela		1,389				1,049	1,139	1,14.
Other South America:	1,367	25,096	1,417 25,931	::		889	986	1,040
Total Latin America:	23,631	23,096	23,931	::		162	162	163
ttonseed:				::		68	78	7:
	340	386	590	::		302	348	350
Mexico	3	3	3	::		2,438	2,811	2,82
Central America	469	500	611	::	-	2,430	2,230	2,400
Brazil	916	683	1,006			470	525	579
Colombia:	235	266	321	::		345	405	34:
Peru:	73	57	57	::		826	791	837
Other South America:	480	420	547			7,650	8,336	8,61
Total Latin America:	2,516	2,315	3,135	::		7,050	0,550	0,01
TOTAL DATE AMERICA	2,510	2,515	5,155		Pork:			
enanas:				::		520	512	5.5
Mexico	1,241	911	1,530	::		320	212	33.
Caribbean:	1,063	1,107	1,123	::		370	400	428
Costa Rica	1,250	969	1,100	::		102	106	109
Honduras:	772	1,134	1,180	::		57	55	5
Panama:	710	700	700	::		255	250	2.38
Other Central America:	841	840	845	::	9	760	784	83
Brazil	3,873	4,356	4,105	::		367	349	36
Ecuador 3/:	2,130	2,425	2,383	::		1,911	1,944	2,03
Other South America	2,844	2,382	2,716	::		2,522	1,544	2,03
Total Latin America:	14,724	14,824	15,682		Milk:			
	, -	,	,	::		7,744	7,685	7,74
ffee:				::		,,,	7,000	, , , .
Mexico	252	222	249	::		6,619	6,789	6,83
Cuba:	25	22	20	::		626	620	62
Other Caribbean	89	106	80	::		457	491	47
Central America:	461	498	446	::		1,343	1,368	1,40
Brazil	1,440	570	1,020	::		5,645	5,520	5,00
Colombia:	539	510	558	::	_	10,003	10,508	11,00
Other South America:	204	210	188	::		956	978	1,00
Total Latin America:	3,010	2,138	2,561	::		2,650	2,200	2,30
	-,010	-,150	-,501	::		3,292	3,293	3,23
:				::		31,591	31,767	31,86
;				. :	Total Patin America	JI, JYI	JI, /0/	JI,00

Crops harvested mainly in year shown; cocoa beans and coffee harvests begin in years shown.

Sources: Economics, Statistics, and Cooperative Service; Foreign Agricultural Service; Food and Agriculture Organization, Production Yearbook of Agriculture; Cuban Yearbook.

Preliminary.
Exportable type only.

Table 6--Western Hemisphere: Agricultural exports and imports by principal countries, 1972-75

Country		Expo	rts <u>l</u> /		:	Impor	rts $1/$	
Country	1972	: 1973	: 1974	: 1975 :	1972	: 1973	: 1974	: 1975 :
:				Million	dollars			
:	0.012./	2 0 4 0 2	2 0/0 1	2 0// 7	1 500 5	0.107.0	0.000 7	2 700 1
Canada::	2,213.4	3,040.3	3,948.1	3,866.7	1,520.5	2,106.2	2,832.7	2,792.1
lexico	851.9	942.2	1,047.0	927.7	252.7	524.6	1,062.6	961.3
: Barbados:	20.2	22.2	32.3	56.4	34.1	41.0	47.8	47.4
Cuba 2/:	661.0	1,120.0	2,410.0	3,241.0	294.0	384.0	645.0	760.0
Oominican Republic:	263.3	322.8	482.2	710.8	37.0	58.4	133.5	121.4
laiti		28.1	37.1	37.3	16.4	23.8	38.6	40.0
Vamaica:		81.6	122.2	193.2	111.3	131.7	197.6	192.3
Trinidad and Tobago:		41.1	76.5	106.8	72.4	83.5	127.1	138.6
Caribbean <u>3</u> /:	1,094.7	1,615.8	3,160.3	4,345.5	565.2	722.4	1,189.6	1,299.7
osta Rica	218.6	260.9	315.2	359.5	38.0	47.8	83.8	69.4
l Salvador	207.3	231.8	303.6	348.3	29.7	46.1	58.1	59.7
uatemala:	230.9	300.9	388.4	432.0	29.3	35.1	49.6	55.0
onduras	142.0	163.6	137.1	164.5	20.2	29.2	38.8	53.4
	190.4	207.2	275.1	275.4	24.5	41.7	45.8	43.0
icaragua:								
anama:	78.9	82.0	87.1	119.8	35.9	42.6	43.4	59.9
Central America 3/:	1,068.1	1,246.4	1,506.5	1,699.5	177.6	242.5	319.5	340.4
rgentina:	1,501.1	2,447.1	2,861.2	2,209.8	156.2	244.5	238.1	226.4
olivia:	23.3	37.1	n.a.	n.a.	31.0	35.7	n.a.	n.a.
razil:	2,738.6	4,176.2	4,856.8	4,859.5	377.0	721.4	1,102.8	782.3
hile:	37.2	27.6	67.7	148.4	289.0	307.2	699.0	394.2
olombia:	628.0	813.6	901.5	1,143.0	85.6	140.8	202.6	144.0
cuador:	213.4	245.3	356.4	322.2	24.6	35.3	59.6	88.1
uyana:	65.8	50.8	153.6	215.7	22.2	28.8	38.9	43.4
araguay:	65.8	105.4	133.2	133.5	5.1	4.6	13.6	8.0
eru:	189.5	247.5	307.2	410.9	167.9	221.3	277.7	324.4
ruguay:	198.4	274.6	302.2	n.a.	36.8	25.0	n.a.	n.a.
enezuela	56.1	46.8	83.0	63.4	216.6	349.3	524.2	593.3
South America $\underline{3}/\ldots$:	5,717.2	8,472.0	10,022.9	9,506.4	1,412.0	2,113.9	3,156.5	2,604.1
atin America	8,731.9	12,276.4	15,736.7	16,479.1	2,407.5	3,603.4	5,728.2	5,205.5
: Jestern Hemisphere:	10,945.3	15,316.7	19,684.8	20,345.8	3,928.0	5,709.6	8,560.9	7,997.6

^{1/} Exports and imports include SITC categories for food, beverages (less distilled) and agricultural raw
materials, excluding fish and manufactured tobacco.
2/ The Cuban Economy: A Statistical Review.
3/ For countries shown.

Sources: Food and Agriculture Organization, <u>Trade Yearbooks</u>; and the Central Bank of Paraguay.

Table 7--Western Hemisphere: Exports and imports of selected agricultural commodities, 1975-77

Exports :	1975	: 1976 <u>1</u> / :	1977 <u>1</u> /	:: : Imports ::	1975		1977 <u>1</u> /
: :-		- 1,000 tons		: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :		- 1,000 tons	
Wheat (including flour in: wheat equivalent):	11.640	11,000		: : Wheat (including flour in: : wheat equivalent):	0.6	2	456
Canada	11,648 31	11,000	- ,	: : Mexico:	86 952	984	1,000
Mexico	1	1	1	: : Dominican Republic:	140	131	135
Argentina:	1,768	3,143	5,249	: : Jamaica:	138	135	125
Other South America:	68	30		: : Trinidad and Tobago:	122	100	110
Total Latin America:	1,868	3,214	5,390	: : Other Caribbean:	301	309	308
:				: : Central America:	386 166	409 167	450 226
				: : Brazil:	2,083	3,752	2,900
				: : Chile:	663	1,108	602
:				: : Colombia	339	380	418
:				: : Peru	725	752 740	768 780
*				: : Venezuela: : : Other South America:	671 271	337	333
				: : Total Latin America .:	7,043	9,306	8,611
:				: :			
tice, milled: :				: :Rice, milled: :			
Mexico:	1 2	1 37	1 12	: : Canada	57 5	48 5	45 6
Central America: Argentina	36	86	193	: : Mexico:	200	180	190
Brazil	3	76		: : Jamaica:	49	46	46
Colombia:	166	150	15	: : Trinidad and Tobago:	31	33	25
Guyana:	83	72		: : Other Caribbean:	96	130	135
Peru	2/ 91	$\frac{2}{112}$	<u>2/</u> 82	: : Central America:	22 21	2 4 26	38 15
Uruguay Other South America:	90	60		: : Chile:	101	187	91
Total Latin America:	472	594		: : Total Latin America .:	525	631	546
:				: :			
corn:	4	312	93	: :Corn: :	773	752	582
Canada	3	1	2/	: : Canada: : : Mexico	2,620	902	1,707
Central America:	4	9	<u>-</u> ′3	: : Cuba	365	375	380
Argentina	4,001	3,059	5,474	: : Jamaica:	133	144	155
Brazil	1,148	1,372		: : Trinidad and Tobago:	62	69	79
Other South America:	20	46		: : Other Caribbean:	85	134	127 195
Total Latin America:	5,176	4,487	6,855	: : Central America:	111 116	95 63	45
:				: : Peru	348	278	171
:				: : Venezuela	175	540	500
:				: : Other South America:	18	147	231
:				: : Total Latin America .:	4,033	2,747	3,590
Sugar, raw basis:				: :Sugar, raw basis:			
Canada	94	43		: : Canada:	998	872	1,041
Mexico:	300	2/	2/	: : Caribbean	34	27	62
Cuba	5,743 83	5,764 89		: : Central America: : : Chile	<u>2</u> / 246	<u>2</u> / 90	$\frac{2}{60}$
Dominican Republic:	946	970	1,179	: : Uruguay	2/	2/	2/
Jamaica	261	236	217	: : Other South America :	_33	69	281
Trinidad and Tobago:	122	157	139	: : Total Latin America .:	313	186	403
Other Caribbean: Central America:	108 712	123 809	135 792				
Brazil	1,731	1,167	2,070	:::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::			
Colombia	173	30	30				
Guyana:	289	302	296	: :			
Peru:	422	284	412	: :			
Other South America: Total Latin America:	733 11,623	516 10,447	842	: :			
iotal Latin America:	11,023	10,447		:::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::			
offee, green or roasted: :				: :Coffee, green or roasted::			
Mexico:	136	173	149	: : Canada:	90	80	71
Dominican Republic:	46	28	44	: : Caribbean:	78	67	61
Other Caribbean	28 143	17 153	22 134	: : Argentina: : : Other South America:	38 12	35 7	30 10
Guatemala	114	124		: : Other South America: : : Total Latin America .:	128	109	101
Other Central America:	156	158		: :			
Brazil:	804	849		: : :			
Colombia	469	348		: :			
Total Latin America:	137 2,033	134 1,984					
	-, -, -	-, > 0 -	-,,,,,,	:::			

See footnotes at end of table.

Continued

Table 7--Western Hemisphere: Exports and imports of selected agricultural commodities, 1975-77--continued

Exports :	1975	: 1976 <u>1</u> / :	1977 <u>1</u> /	: :	Imports :	1975	: 1976 <u>1</u> / :	: : 1977 <u>1</u> ,
:				: :	:		- 1,000 tons -	
:		- 1,000 tons -		: :			1,000 10113	
Bananas, plantains, :				: :	Bananas, plantains, :			
fresh: :				: :	fresh: :			
Mexico:	3	10		: :		212	235	232
Jamaica:	68	84	84	: :		5	6	. 7
Other Caribbean:	387	430		: :	0	24	22	22
Costa Rica:	1,119	1,068		: :		134	50	50
Honduras:	364	661		: :		40	38	38
Panama	496	589		: :		4	9	9
Other Central America:	374	378		: :		207	125	126
Brazil:	147	92		: :				
Colombia:	486	499		: :				
Ecuador:	1,362	1,200	-,	: :				
Other South America:	45	47		: :				
Total Latin America:	4,851	5,058		: :				
locoa beans:					Cocoa beans: :			
Mexico	14	15		: :		1/	12	11
Dominican Republic:	27	28		: :		±′ 7	7	11
Other Caribbean	4	10		: :		10	9	8
Central America:	7	6		: :		4	8	10
Brazil:	177	129		: :		7	4	4
Ecuador	57	27		: :		28	28	33
Other South America:	14	8		: :		20	20	
Total Latin America	300	223		: :				
	300	223		: :				
eef and veal: 3/					Beef and veal: 3/ :			
Canada	12	44		: :		58	98	57
Mexico	14	23		: :		17	24	25
Caribbean:	4	8		: :		1	2	2/
Costa Rica:	30	30		: :		29	27	
Nicaragua	36	34	48	: :	Chile:	2/	5	5
Other Central America:	48	59	51	: :		- 7	5	4
Argentina	266	534		: :		54	63	54
Brazil	101	156	188	: :	:			
Paraguay	22	20	28	: :	:			
Uruguay:	113	182	194	: :	:			
Other South America:	18	17	13	: :	:			
Total Latin America:	652	1,063	1,195	: :	:			
:				: :	:			
otton, raw: :				: :	Cotton, raw: :			
Mexico	95	106	162	: :	Canada:	52	53	50
Guatemala:	91	117		: :		24	24	2.5
Nicaragua	113	111		: :		15	33	54
Other Central America:	91	61		: :		3	2	3
Brazil	170	60		: :		31	22	20
Peru:	33	36		: :		4	5	5
Other South America:	237	206		: :		2	2	2
Total Latin America:	830	697		: :		79	88	109
.1				: :				
obacco, unmanufactured: :					Tobacco, unmanufactured: :	_	,	_
Canada	26	27		: :		5	4	5
Mexico	18	13		: :		8	8	8
Cuba	14	22		: :		1	1	1
Dominican Republic:	32	34		: :		2	2	2
Central America:	11	13		: :		4	4	9
Brazil	98	101		: :		9	10	
Colombia	13	21		: :		24	25	24
Paraguay:	25	27		: :				
Other South America:	50 261	43 279		: :				
Total Latin America:				: :				

Sources: Economics, Statistics, and Cooperatives Service; Foreign Agricultural Service; Food and Agriculture Organization, and United Nations.

 $[\]frac{1}{2}$ / Preliminary $\frac{2}{3}$ / Less than 500 tons. $\frac{3}{3}$ / Carcass weight basis: excludes fats and offals.

Table 8--U.S. agricultural exports to Western Hemisphere countries and dependencies by value, 1972-77

Country	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977 <u>1</u>
	:		Millio	n dollars		
Canada <u>2</u> /	842.8	1,034.1	1,282.0	1,305.0	1,485.1	1,550.4
Mexico	181.4	362.0	862.6	585.7	369.9	664.4
Bahamas	28.3	37.2	45.2	45.3	44.4	47.9
Barbados	2 1 2	6.5	7.5	8.5	10.7	12.7
Bermuda		12.4	16.8	18.3	20.8	22.9
Oominican Republic		63.4	117.3	96.0	107.3	102.3
rench West Indies		3.2	4.1	3.9	5.8	6.1
laiti		15.5	27.5	38.7	31.5	49.7
amaica		63.1	83.5	73.8	75.4	81.1
eeward & Windward Isles		8.3	9.3	8.8	10.6	17.5
etherlands Antilles		22.5	32.1	33.8	39.0	44.9
		33.6	50.0	52.3	46.4	42.7
rinidad and Tobago		33.6	50.0	52.3		
ther Caribbean					4.8	. 5.5
Caribbean	186.8	265.9	393.0	379.4	396.7	433.0
elize	2.7	2.7	4.3	5.7	5.8	6.4
osta Rica	11.2	20.3	28.7	26.5	27.3	30.2
1 Salvador		24.4	26.2	33.2	31.0	48.4
uatemala		23.5	40.7	37.9	40.1	43.1
		11.0	21.0	29.5	19.5	26.0
onduras					-,,,	20.7
icaragua:		16.9	18.0	17.1	19.9	
anama	25.0	30.4	56.7	43.8	45.7	44.6
Central America	82.7	129.1	195.8	193.7	189.3	219.4
rgentina	6.9	95.6	9.6	8.7	5.7	11.3
olivia	_	5.3	28.0	8.3	12.5	19.5
razil		271.2	239.9	322.9	254.6	111.0
hile	28.4	110.0	112.7	125.3	125.2	80.3
olombia		118.2	137.6	84.9	97.3	134.8
cuador		30.7	56.7	65.8	71.2	75.9
rench Guiana		.2	.3	.2	.2	.3
uyana		10.8	15.5	16.7	18.9	11.4
araguay		.9	.8	1.2	.9	.9
eru:	72.0	121.6	170.1	192.8	111.3	124.8
urinam		8.7	9.9	11.7	12.9	16.3
ruguay		2.6	9.0	5.8	2.2	11.2
enezuela	137.1	159.7	323.3	277.0	273.6	304.1
South America	420.8	935.4	1,113.2	1,121.3	986.5	901.9
otal Latin America	871.7	1,692.4	2,564.7	2,280.1	1,942.4	2,218.7
otal Western Hemisphere	1,714.4	2,726.5	3,846.7	3,585.1	3,427.5	3,769.1
otal World	9,400.7	17,680.5	22,026.3	21,884.1	22,996.7	23,671.0
emisphere as percentage						
of world total	18.2	15.4	17.5	16.4	14.9	15.9
	20.2	17.4	11.03	10.7	T-4 - 7	10.0

 $[\]frac{1}{2}/$ Preliminary. $\overline{2}/$ Excludes export transshipments, mostly grains and oilseeds, to Western Europe.

Table 9--U.S. agricultural imports from Western Hemisphere countries and dependencies by value, 1972-77

Country	1972	1973	: 1974	1975	1976	: 1977 <u>1</u> /
:			Millio	n dollars		
Canada	353.4	530.5	527.1	491.4	600.2	672.5
Mexico	589.9	743.4	766.6	508.7	711.1	1,013.1
Bahamas	.6	.8	.9	.9	1.5	2.5
Barbados:	. 3	1.7	16.1	17.9	13.8	8.8
Bermuda:	<u>2</u> /	<u>2</u> /	2/	<u>2</u> /	2/	2/
Dominican Republic:	196.7	239.0	357.6	549.3	400.3	471.9
French West Indies:	. 4	. 3	. 2	. 3	. 4	.8
Haiti:	18.2	18.6	28.3	20.1	30.1	39.5
Jamaica:	11.2	4.4	45.3	38.7	27.6	11.3
Leeward & Windward Isles:	. 8	.8	1.8	4.3	6.4	4.2
Netherlands Antilles:	.1	<u>2</u> /	12.4	1.5	6.3	. 2
Trinidad and Tobago:	8.8	5.3	17.9	17.2	29.2	17.4
Other Caribbean					.3	.7
Caribbean	237.1	271.0	498.4	650.2	515.9	557.2
Belize	6.3	7.5	23.6	25.2	4.7	7.6
Costa Rica	118.4	121.7	147.1	156.8	192.8	254.7
El Salvador	38.3	101.5	121.1	131.8	204.6	319.5
Guatemala	98.3	151.2	193.1	149.3	257.9	352.5
Honduras	91.9	120.0	102.8	93.2	153.1	184.6
Nicaragua	60.8	86.1	62.8	90.0	131.3	119.9
Panama	25.7	24.7	38.1	68.8	48.8	71.8
: Central America:	439.7	612.8	688.5	715.2	993.3	1,310.5
:						
Argentina:	119.7	133.2	209.7	144.6	155.3	190.1
Bolivia:	3.8	3.6	3.3	3.8	16.3	14.6
Brazil:	659.7	713.2	1,030.7	772.1	965.9	1,384.6
Chile:	6.2	5.2	15.1	18.0	21.8	26.4
Colombia:	207.7	291.2	364.6.	420.8	470.7	616.8
Ecuador:	82.5	90.2	175.2	147.9	232.7	292.7
French Guiana:	2/	. 2	.1	.1	2/	<u>2</u> /
Guyana:	13.8	7.4	43.2	44.2	13.6	5.8
Paraguay:	12.9	18.7	20.4	15.3	16.2	17.7
Peru:	114.9	112.2	190.8	135.6	170.0	183.5
Surinam:	. 4	.1	. 4	. 2	.1	.1
Uruguay:	1.1	1.7	2.5	1.4	3.5	3.7
Venezuela:	29.9	30.2	35.1	33.2	43.0	55.5
South America	1,252.6	1,407.0	2,091.0	1,737.1	2,109.1	2,791.6
Total Latin America	2,519.4	3,034.2	4,044.4	3,611.2	4,329.4	5,672.2
Total Western Hemisphere:	2,872.7	3,564.7	4,571.5	4,102.6	4,929.6	6,344.7
Total World	6,466.9	8,419.1	10,247.3	9,310.1	10,990.4	13,457.8
Hemisphere as percentage : of world total	44.4	42.3	44.6	44.1	44.8	47.2

 $[\]frac{1}{2}$ / Preliminary. Less than \$50,000.

Table 10--U.S. agricultural exports by SITC categories to

			Dairy	Cereals		Sugar, sugar			: Miscella-
Country			products	and	: vegetables,				
	animais	preparations	and eggs	preparations	: and : preparations:		: and : spices	: feed	: prepara- : tions
				Mil	lion dollars				
: Canada 1/: :									
1973:	98.7	79.2	11.6	89.9	354.3	8.1	37.4	56.8	17.3
1974:	69.1	69.0	13.4	163.9	411.2	38.9	36.5	70.1	39.1
1975:	39.6	93.1	16.9	147.9	458.2	51.7	59.5	73.6	43.5
1976:	58.9	183.0	20.0	135.3	504.7	32.2	53.2	90.9	44.9
1977:	26.6	165.3	21.8	110.4	548.6	22.7	66.0	118.0	48.7
lexico: :									
1973:	20.2	8.6	8.6	166.6	11.7	1.6	1.2	13.3	13.3
1974:	33.3	16.0	10.3	467.3	45.3	2.5	2.0	23.3	21.0
1975:	36.2	15.4	16.2	330.4	49.4	1.6	2.1	14.9	22.7
1976:	36.8	18.3	16.5	96.2	17.6	1.9	2.7	9.7	22.9
1977	19.6	16.6	11.6	294.0	1 .6	1.7	2.7	64.9	25.8
aribbean: :									
1973:	2.2	4 .5	7.2	98.8	23.9	2.3	2.6	30.8	13.2
1974:	2.5	48.7	10.5	170.5	24.3	5.9	3.3	32.1	18.5
1975:	2.9	48.9	10.4	143.6	28.3	4.9	3.4	32.7	22.6
1976:	2.9	55.9	13.5	132.8	34.1	6.8	4.6	40.8	23.2
1977:	3.3	60.6	15.6	135.4	38.9	7.0	6.3	41.3	27.8
entral America: :									
1973	4.7	2.9	2.3	72.4	9.5	1.7	1.3	9.1	8.2
1974:	3.9	4.6	3.1	97.0	14.4	1.9	1.5	18.2	12.2
1975	4.0	4.5	3.2	108.5	14.7	2.2	1.2	7.2	11.7
1976	4.6	4.2	6.0	88.2	16.5	2.6	1.8	11.7	14.0
1977	6.5	5.6	11.5	94.3	16.1	3.5	2.7	19.1	16.3
:									
ndes Region: $3/$:									
1973:	4.4	2.6	1.2	392.2	20.7	0.5	0.5	3.4	10.0
1974:	4.2	4.8	2.5	547.2	25.2	0.7	0.7	22.1	19.5
1975	5.7	3.5	5.5	533.5	30.1	2.0	0.9	12.9	25.7
1976	7.4	5.2	10.3	448.2	34.7	0.8	0.7	17.5	30.0
1977	6.6	25.2	22.4	344.4	44.1	1.3	1.6	35.8	55.2
ther South America::									
1973:	3.1	0.9	2.9	326.7	22.8	0.8	0.4	4.1	2.7
1974:	6.1	1.5	1.8	192.0	12.9	0.7	0.4	4.6	4.2
1975:	6.3	0.9	3.1	298.2	11.5	1.3	0.3	5.9	4.5
1976:	6.9	0.6	2.5	244.5	8.2	1.2	0.3	8.5	4.5
1977:	8.2	1.0	3.5	91.7	11.8	0.8	0.5	7.6	4.8
atin America: :									
1973	34.7	58.6	22.2	1,056.8	88.6	6.9	6.0	60.7	47.4
1974:	50.1	75.5	28.4	1,474.0	121.8	11.7	8.1	100.3	75.7
1975:	55.2	73.1	38.4	1,414.2	134.1	12.1	7.9	73.8	87.2
1976:	58.7	84.3	48.9	1,009.9	111.0	13.4	10.3	88.2	94.8
1977:	44.2	109.0	64.6	959.8	127.4	14.2	13.9	169.0	129.7
estern Hemisphere: :									
1973	133.4	137.7	33.8	1,146.6	442.9	14.0	43.4	117.5	64.7
1974		144.5	41.8	1,637.9	533.0	50.6	44.6	170.4	114.8
1975		166.2	55.3	1,562.1	592.3	63.8	67.4	147.4	130.7
1976		267.3	68.9	1,145.2	615.7	45.6	63.5	179.1	139.7
1977:	70.8	274.3	86.4	1,070.2	676.0	36.9	79.9	287.0	178.4
				,	_				

 $[\]frac{1}{2}/$ Excludes transshipments. $\frac{2}{2}/$ Less than \$50,000. $\frac{3}{2}/$ Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela.

Country	Unmanu- factured tobacco	Hides, skins and furskins	: oilnuts, :	: Natural : rubber :	Natural fibers	: Crude : animal and : vegetable	:Animal and: : vegetable: : fats and :	Other	: : Total
	: COBACCO	undressed	:oilkernels:	:		: material	: oils :		:
				M2 1 1	d d - 11				
				PILLI	ion dollars				
Canada 1/:									
1973	5.5	37.2	109.1	2.1	62.1	27.3	21.8	15.7	1,034.
1974:		43.2	148.2	2.9	61.8	33.2	56.5	20.1	1,282.
1975		41.2	133.5	3.0	39.3	36.5	45.5	19.8	1,305.
1976:		64.3	130.0	3.7	51.9	48.5	36.6	23.4	1,485.
1977:	4.2	66.9	150.4	4.6	71.8	55.6	44.3	24.5	1,550.
exico:									
1973	2/	36.2	34.6	0.1	1.0	13.8	26.9	4.3	362.
1974		36.7	95.7	0.6	1.7	19.9	80.8	6.2	862
1975		27.4	8.7	0.7	1.5	16.7	36.1	5.7	585.
1976		30.5	70.1	0.2	0.3	21.7	14.1	10.4	369.
1977		37.2	115.8	0.2	0.3	20.5	29.9	7.0	664.
	<i>=</i> ′	37.2	113.0	0.2	0.3	20.3	27.7	, . 0	004.
Caribbean:									
1973:		0.2	2.5	0.1	1.2	2.8	23.3	4.1	265.
1974:		0.1	1.3	0.1	1.7	3.0	51.6	6.2	393.
1975:		0.5	5.1	0.1	1.4	3.0	45.2	5.5	379.
1976:		0.6	8.2	0.5	0.5	3.6	41.8	6.1	296.
1977:	18.9	1.2	16.3	0.4	0.9	3.9	46.4	8.8	433.
entral America:									
1973	1.7	2/	0.4	0.1	0.5	1.4	10.9	2.0	129
1974		0.8	1.1	0.2	1.4	2.4	28.6	2.6	195.
1975		0.4	2.6	0.2	2.7	2.2	24.7	2.3	193.
1976		2/	1.3	0.1	1.9	2.5	29.2	2.8	189.
1977		0.4	2.2	0.2	1.2	3.1	31.4	3.7	219.
:									
indes Region:	/ 0	7 /	26.2	0.7	/ 0	0.7	E2 E	, ,	C / C
1973 1974		7.4 4.9	26.3 41.8	0.7	4.0	8.7 9.3	53.5 127.8	4.6 5.2	545. 828.
1975		2.1	32.4	1.6 1.8	4.2 0.4	8.8	75.7	6.7	754.
1976		2.3	15.4	2.0	2.4	10.6	84.5	7.2	691.
1977		3.3	18.0	2.2	3.5	12.5	138.9	7.8	739.
19//	10.0	3.3	10.0	2.2	3.3	12.5	130.9	7.0	, , , , ,
ther South America:									
1973:	3.0	2.3	0.5	0.4	0.2	6.1	11.8	1.2	389.
1974:		2.8	0.9	0.1	0.2	7.7	40.8	4.9	285.
1975:	1.1	3.9	1.4	0.3	0.1	9.0	16.1	3.1	367.
1976		1.4	0.3	0.2	2/	7.4	2.2	5.8	295.
1977:	0.8	9.3	1.0	0.1	0.2	10.4	6.5	4.4	162.
atin America:									
1973	16.7	46.0	64.3	1.3	6.9	32.8	126.4	16.2	1,692
1974		45.3	140.8	2.5	0.7	42.2	329.5	25.1	2,564
1975		34.3	50.2	3.1	6.1	39.9	197.9	22.8	2,280
1976		35.0	95.1	3.1	5.1	46.1	171.8	31.1	1,942
1977		51.5	153.3	3.2	6.2	50.3	253.0	31.5	2,218
;									
estern Hemisphere: :	22.2	83.3	173.4	3.5	69.0	60.1	148.2	31.9	2,726
1974		88.5	289.0	5.4	70.9	75.4	386.0	45.2	3,846
1975		75.5	183.7	6.1	45.4	76.4	243.4	42.6	3,585
1976		99.3	225.1	6.8	57.0	94.6	208.4	54.5	3,427
1977		118.4	303.7	7.8	78.0	105.9	297.3	56.0	3,769
-2//	44.1	110.4	303.7	/ . 0	70.0	100.9	231.3	30.0	3,709

Table 11--U.S. agricultural imports by SITC categories from

Country	Live : animals :	Meat	Dairy products and eggs	Cereals and preparations	: Fruits: vegetables: and:preparations	: sugar prep- :arations and	: Coffee :cocoa, tea : and : spices	: :Animal : feed :	Miscellane- ous food preparations
:				Mil	lion dollars				
Canada :									
1973:	114.1	101.6	40.8	59.8	41.5	8.8	19.0	38.5	3.1
1974:	68.6	66.8	21.9	122.3	52.9	9.2	19.1	36.7	2.7
1975:		46.4	6.2	117.4	0.9	29.0	14.6	31.3	2.5
1976:	138.0	81.2	4.9	90.8	36.9	28.1	23.1	38.6	3.1
1977:		72.9	6.7	85.8	57.6	51.1	45.1	42.0	3.3
Mexico :									
1973:	104.2	52.6		0.7	251.5	144.3	140.9	1.2	0.8
1974:	67.8	32.3		2.4	193.8	272.5	125.9	1.4	2.3
1975:	25.1	18.6		8.0	185.2	48.0	148.4	0.9	2.3
1976:	61.0	32.7		3.3	208.5	34.0	291.2	1.7	2.4
1977:		38.3		3.2	361.0	28.2	416.9	1.8	3.6
Caribbean :									
1973:		12.8			10.1	148.3	76.1	0.5	1/
1974:		10.1			15.2	337.6	109.8	0.7	$\overline{0}$. 1
1975:	1/	5.9			17.6	523.3	78.3	0.5	1.2
1976:	$\frac{1}{1}$	10.6		0.2	17.6	295.1	162.4	0.2	2.8
1977:		2.5	how wore	1/	18.6	202.4	296.3	1/	4.8
Central America :									
1973:		143.3			159.5	70.2	222.4		~-
1974:	1/	115.0			147.4	167.3	234.3		
1975:		107.0	*		164.2	221.7	193.1		
1976:	1/	132.9			220.9	226.6	374.5	1.8	
1977:		127.8			238.7	174.7	724.7	0.2	0.3
Andes Region 2/ :									
1973:	1.2			0.1	48.5	11.4.3	342.8		0.7
1974:				0.2	78.6	244.4	414.7	0.4	0.9
1975:	1.1			0.4	87.0	175.8	443.8	0.7	1.9
1976:	1.3			0.4	96.9	155.9	645.1	1.6	0.8
1977				0.2	114.5	76.4	933.2	2.9	1.2
Oah Court Amorica									
Other South America :	2 6	125 0	/ 1	2 7	31 7	127 /	170 7		1.0
1973:		125.9	4.1	2.7	31.7	137.4	478.7	0.4	1.2
1974:	2.2	148.0	5.5	3.2	38.5	536.9	429.3		1.4
1975:	2.5	76.1	6.8	4.8	46.5	214.0	540.3	1.2	
1976:		137.8	7.1	5.9	44.6	66.0	784.1	2.6	1.0
1977:	3.3	117.0	7.7	7.0	67.9	158.1	1,097.5	3.4	1.3
Latin America :									
1973:	109.0	334.6	4.1	3.5	501.3	614.5	1,260.9	1.7	2.5
1974:	71.3	305.4	5.5	5.8	473.5	1,558.7	1,314.0	2.9	4.5
1975:	29.3	207.6	6.8	13.2	500.5	1,182.8	1,403.9	3.3	6.8
1976:		314.0	7.1	9.6	588.5	777.6	2,257.3	7.9	7.0
1977:		285.6	7.7	10.2	800.7	639.8	3,468.6	8.3	11.2
Western Hemisphere :									
1973:		436.2	44.9	63.3	542.8	623.3	1,279.9	40.2	5.6
1974:		372.2	27.4	128.1	526.4	1,567.9	1,331.1	29.6	7.2
1975		254.0	13.0	130.6	541.4	1,211.8	1,418.5	34.6	9.3
1976:		395.2	12.0	160.4	625.4	805.7	2,280.4	46.5	10.1
1977:		358.5	14.4	96.0	858.3	690.9	3,513.7	50.3	14.5
:									

 $[\]frac{1}{2}/$ Less than \$50,000. $\underline{2}/$ Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela.

Canada, Mexico, and Western Hemisphere regions, 1973-77

	Unmanu-	Hides, skins and	<pre>,: 0ilseed, :</pre>	Natural	: : Natural		: Animal and : vegetable	: Other	: :
Country	factured tobacco	furskins undressed	: and : : oilkernels :	rubber	: fibers		: fats and : oils	: Uther	Total
					Million dol	lars			
	:				_				
Canada	0.6	21 5	6.0			/2 5	2.0	10.5	5 10 E
1973		31.5	6.2	_~		43.5	2.0	19.5 22.5	530.5 527.1
1974		28.4	17.5	0.4		54.2 42.1	3.2 2.4	25.0	491.4
1975		30.4 39.5	16.7	4.1		39.0	2.4	43.3	600.2
1976 1977		42.3	23.7 22.7	4.0		43.9	2.3	54.3	672.5
lexico									
1973	8.8		5.2		5.4	12.7	1.3	13.8	743.4
1974			6.2		6.6	16.6	1.8	20.9	766.6
1975			5.8		11.9	21.1	1.1	21.3	508.7
1976			10.7		7.6	22.5	2.0	24.1	711.1
1977			13.4		2.6	20.0	5.2	27.2	1,013.1
19//			13.4		2.0	20.0	3.2	21.2	1,015.1
Caribbean :									0.77
1973:		0.1			0.9	0.3	5.6	8.2	271.0
1974:		$\frac{1}{2}$			1.1	0.3	0.2	15.6	498.4
1975:		0.2			0.2	0.5	1/	13.4	650.2
1976:		0.4	1/		0.1	1.0	0.1	16.6	515.6
1977:	8.1	0.5				0.9	0.1	23.0	557.2
Central America :									
1973:	4.9		4.4			2.8		5.3	612.8
1974:			7.1			5.1		7.0	688.5
1975:			7.1			6.6		5.9	715.2
1976:			9.7			7.5		9.7	993.2
1977:			6.6			9.6		13.8	1,310.6
Andes Region :									
1973:		0.1			4.5	10.6	0.1	4.5	532.6
1974:	5.3	0.1			8.1	20.4	0.8	9.0	784.2
1975		0.5			6.5	22.1	0.4	11.1	759.3
1976		0.2			13.2	25.4	1.0	10.3	954.5
1977:	3.1	0.1			7.3	36.4	0.9	12.2	1,189.5
: ther South America:									
1973:		2.6			10.8	4.0	39.2	20.5	874.4
1974:		2.8			7.8	6.4	75.5	33.7	1,306.5
1975		2.1		0.7	7.5	7.7	27.4	20.1	977.9
1976:		1.6		1.0	13.1	2.2	34.6	24.7	1,154.6
1977:		1.4	~-	0.8	16.0	2.6	55.7	29.3	1,602.0
atin America :									
1973:		2.8	9.6		21.6	30.4	46.2	52.3	3,034.2
1974		2.9	13.3		23.6	48.8	48.3	86.4	4,044.4
1975:		2.8	12.9	0.7	26.1	58.0	28.9	71.8	3,611.2
1976		2.2	20.4	1.0	34.0	58.6	37.7	85.4	4,329.0
1977		2.0	20.0	0.8	26.0	95.5	61.9	105.5	5,672.4
estern Hemisphere :									
1973:		34.3	15.8		21.6	73.9	48.2	71.8	3,564.7
1974		31.3	30.8		23.6	103.0	81.5	108.9	4,571.5
1975		33.2	29.6	1.1	26.1	100.1	31.3	96.8	4,102.6
1976		41.7	44.1	5.1	34.0	97.6	40.3	128.7	4,929.2
1977		44.3	42.7	4.8	26.0	139.4	64.2	159.8	6,344.9
	2.0				20.0	137.7	0.1.2	107.0	٥,٠



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300

NOTICE: If you don't want future issues of this ERS publication, check here _____ and mail this sheet to the address below.

If your address should be changed, write your new address on this sheet and mail it to

Automated Mailing List Section Office of Plant and Operations U.S. Department of Agriculture Washington, D.C. 20250 POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE
AGR 101
FIRST CLASS

